*Student wins big on Appreciation Day*

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APRIL 9, 1999 FREE VOLUME 29—ISSUE 15

Sports banquet award winners are Kirby Bentley (left), Melissa Hallborg, Liana Collins and Haldon Hutchinson. With them is Niagara College President Dan Patterson. See related story and photos on Page 20.

Photo by Mark Garrett

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# Graduate dies suddenly

## *Frank Minniti always made everybody laugh*

By MARTIN McQUAIG
Staff Writer

Niagara College has lost a successful graduate and an active member of the Welland community.

Frank Minniti, 26, of First Street in Welland, died while on a rock climbing trip with friends at Rattlesnake Point in Milton, Ont., on March 28.

Minniti graduated from the college's Law and Security Administration program in 1992. He kept his talent in the Niagara Region as an officer at the Niagara Detention Centre in Thorold.

Minniti was active and enjoyed hiking, inline skating and kayaking as well as rock climbing, which he had been doing for about three years.

"He was always in a good mood," said his longtime friend Jerry Raso, 28, of Welland. Raso, who had known Minniti for about 10 years, said he was always the centre of attention in any room and he, "always made everybody laugh."

Minniti was a full-time ju-jitsu member at Black Panther Studio on Division Street in Welland.

# Niagara athletes honoured at dinner

By STEVE CHARRON
Staff Writer

School spirit was the main course at this year's Niagara College sports dinner.

The 30th annual athletic banquet was held at After Hours at the Welland campus on March 30. The event was to recognize players and coaches of the college's varsity teams.

The evening began with a trivia contest about Niagara College sports. T-shirts were awarded as prizes.

The pool tables were transformed for a buffet as dinner began at 7 p.m.

"This is a great turnout," said Ray Sarkis, the college's assistant sports director, adding 159 athletes and coaches were invited "and it looks as though 130 or so attended."

Most valuable player awards were handed out to one player on each team. All participants received a Niagara College Knights' pin.

The crowd cheered relentlessly as each team was introduced.

College President Dan Patterson addressed the athletes and said that this was "the wildest banquet yet."

The unveiling of the banner for the touch football team championship received the loudest ovation of the night. The banner will hang from the rafters of the gym in the Mackenzie building at the Welland campus.

The awards for athlete of the year concluded the event.

The male athlete of the year was Kirby Bentley, 22, of Caledon East. Bentley has played on the college's men's volleyball team for the past three seasons. He was named Ontario Collegiate Athletic Association male Athlete of the Week in November.

Liana Collins, 22, of Midland, was chosen as the Female Athlete of the Year. She has played for the volleyball team the past two years.

Bentley is enrolled in the Hotel and Restaurant Management program. He said he chose Niagara because the program is well recognized outside of the community. "What I like most about Niagara is that the teachers are very accessible and the sizes of the classes is small compared to Sheridan College (in Oakville)."

He said his program will be finished at the end of April. "I plan on taking Culinary Skills (program) next year." He said he has one more year of eligibility left to play volleyball. "Next year with a few more recruits we should have an excellent team."

"Winning this award is really a reflection of the success of our team," Bentley said.

Collins is a second-year Recreation and Leisure Services program student. She said she wants to start her own massage therapy business. "I've always been into sports and the field I'm in can open up a lot of different avenues."

Collins said she isn't sure if she'll be returning next year. "I'm hoping to go to massage therapy school." She said she most likely will return as it's "quite difficult" to be accepted for the massage school.

"I really enjoyed playing for a great college. I grew as a player this year and I loved getting to know everyone on our team."

Collins said she thinks everyone should make the step to be a part of a team. "The lessons I've learnt,

Continued on Page 20

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CHRYSLER CANADA

# Eye On Niagara

# Special needs worker finds job rewarding

## *Graduate lends helping hand*

By HOLLY BALCOMB
Staff Writer

There are 450 special needs students at Niagara College in Welland.

Caroline Gruhl has been responsible for making sure their needs have been met for more than 10 years.

Gruhl graduated from Niagara College in 1988 from the Educational Resource and Special Needs program and worked with developmentally delayed children as part of her placement during her last semester.

"I didn't know I wanted to do this," said Gruhl. "I came back to school at 40 years old and found out I was a good student."

Gruhl said she tried several times to get into Mohawk College in Hamilton. In 1985, she was accepted into the High-tech Prep for Women course at Niagara, which consisted of drafting and electrical training. "I simply wasn't suited."

"When I applied again, here at Niagara College, it was with the intention of eventually becoming an occupational therapist," said Gruhl. "This is the next best thing, being a resource person."

*'In this line of work, successes are an everyday occurrence.' — Caroline Gruhl*

Some of the daily responsibilities of Gruhl's job are to help physically disabled students with needs like finding accommodations while attending Niagara, and tackling accessibility problems.

"For example," said Gruhl, "the ramps here at the school aren't to specification for access in the 1990s. They're too steep."

Of the 450 special needs students at Niagara, 150 of them are classed as physically disabled. The remaining 300 need extra help because of emotional, visual and hearing disabilities.

"These are all very competent people," said Gruhl. "The only difference between them and the rest of the students at the college is that these students' bodies don't always co-operate."

Gruhl said the hardest part of the job is "convincing the (special needs) students that they can do more than they think they can."

"It's a very rewarding job," said Gruhl. "There are good days and bad days, like any job, but in this line of work, successes are an everyday occurrence. These students are their own success stories.

"I love my job. With all the different students I help take care of, no day is the same. It's always a new story and a new challenge."

# Raising money to make a difference

By MIKE DILTS
Staff Writer

Just don't stand there. Take a walk against multiple sclerosis (MS).

On April 18 at 9:30 a.m., a walkathon, called the Super Cities Walk, to fight against MS will be held.

The event is sponsored by Zehr's, CHOW radio in Welland, the *Welland Tribune and other corporations. The walk will start and end at Merritt Island in Welland, where there will be a breakfast before and a barbecue afterwards.*

"The walk isn't just about raising money. It's about informing people about MS," said Joanne Sabourin, 43, a co-chairperson for the Super Cities Walk. She said people should come and have a good time for a good cause.

Each participant can choose from three different routes: a two-kilometre walk that is wheelchair accessible; a five-kilometre route and a 10-kilometre route.

Twenty-six communities are involved in the Super Cities Walk across Ontario, including St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Toronto and Mississauga.

Participants can win an assortment of prizes depending upon how much money each participant raises.

Fifty per cent of the money raised stays with the Niagara chapter of the MS Society to help pay for such efforts as family support, community education and wheelchairs. Forty per cent goes into research.

Fred Steinhaus, 36, honourary chairperson, said the MS Society surpassed last year's goal of more than 400 people and more than $33,000 raised.

"Our goal for this year is to maintain the same numbers from last year, so we are expecting around 350 people and $30,000," said Steinhaus.

Multiple sclerosis is a neurological condition affecting more than 50,000 Canadians. One person is diagnosed with MS every day.

The number to register for the walk is 1-888-U-ACT-4-MS or 1-888-822-8467. People can also register for volunteer work for the walkathon.

*'I think it is important to raise awareness for MS.' — Fred Steinhaus*

"We need volunteers to help with the preparations," said Steinhaus. "We need people to help with signs, route marshalling and for many other things. If anyone is willing to come out and volunteer, that would be a big help. I think this walk is important for a number of reasons because I think it's important to raise awareness for MS and also that we are closer than ever in finding a cure."

## *Prepared, ready to go*

After seven months and 14 newspapers, the *Niagara News* is undergoing personnel changes.

The Journalism-Print program's second-year students are gone but not forgotten.

Their tenure at the college is ending with a one-month field placement at various publications, including community and daily newspapers, public relations firms and photography studios.

Students will be showing their skills in the newsrooms of *The Tribune, The Niagara Falls Review, The Thorold News, The Standard, Pelham Voice, Port Colborne's The Leader, The Brantford Expositor, Lucknow Sentinel, Clinton News Record, Pulse, Vines Magazine* and *What's Up Kids?* magazine.

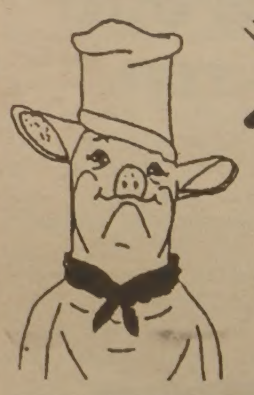
Photographers will be working at Amora Studios Welland and *The Tribune*. Public relations placements include Peace Bridge Brokerage, Niagara MPP Bart Maves' office, the March of Dimes, Venture Inn Burlington, Downtown Winnipeg Biz, Niagara College Communications, United Way Welland and the Niagara Regional Police Service. A layout and digital design placement will be at Creative Signs and Graphics.

Congratulations go to Dave Olsen who has secured full-time employment as an advertising salesperson with the *Thornbury Express* and *Meaford Express*.

The program's first-year students are at the helm here with three new editors.

The 38-member class did the reporting, writing, editing, photography and layout and design of this edition.

Their second, and final edition, of the *Niagara News* will be published Friday, April 23.

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# Eye On Niagara

# Winning bike makes student's day

## *Contest to be an annual January event*

By MARK GARRETT
Staff Writer

Student Appreciation Day (SAD) paid off for Paul Harrison.

Harrison, 20, of Welland, won a Peugeot bicycle courtesy of Aramark and Peter Mete, Aramark's food service director, on March 26, at Niagara College's Black Walnut cafeteria.

The bicycle was one of four prizes in the Passport to Great Prizes contest.

Harrison is in the Law and Security Administration program at the Welland campus.

"I was surprised and excited," he says, about winning the bike. Harrison is a wrestler at Brock University in St. Catharines and says he will "be able to train now."

Other winners were Courtney Sendzik, Anthony Hayes and Sandy Rusic, all Niagara College students. Prizes included stuffed animals and a Coca-Cola cooler. All prizes were donated by Aramark and Coca-Cola.

Mete started working for Aramark last September. His office is in the Black Walnut cafeteria. "I love my job, the business and the industry."

The contest started in January with "quite a few students," says Mete. The contest will continue annually in January and have prizes "just as big."

"We wanted to test the water this year and see how it went."

In order to win, Mete says, "all you had to do was buy a combo meal at Mr. Sub, a combo meal at the Donut Diner, a beverage at Tim Hortons or a combo meal at the main cafeteria. After buying one of those items you got a card stamped and then you handed in the card for the draw."

Mete says he wanted the contest draw to be fair, so he got college security guard Andy Labonte, of Welland, to pull the names from the box.

"Prizes were fairly easy to collect. Aramark is always willing to participate."

Anyone was eligible for the contest, but Mete says, "I'm glad to see a student win instead of an outsider. It's good doing something for the students."

Peter Mete, Aramark's food service director, (left) shakes hands with bicycle winner Paul Harrison at the Passport to Great Prizes contest.

Photo by Mark Garrett

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# Teacher balances life's many tasks

By VICKI HARTLEN
Staff Writer

Most students consider their lives hectic, but for Lucy Silvestri, 33, of Welland, her schedule is full.

Not only is Silvestri a teacher at Niagara College in Welland, but she is a mother of two and owner of Silvestri Sports in Welland.

Silvestri teaches entrepreneurship, business communications and merchandising. All courses are part of the Business Administration — Marketing (Co-op) program. A graduate of the same program at Niagara College, she has taught at the college for three years.

"I started off teaching a night course and I had also taught the odd course during the day," said Silvestri. "I built up my experience so that I could handle a full course load."

Silvestri said teaching in the business course has helped "tie together" her education with her enjoyment of teaching.

Another area where her education has helped is in her business career. Twelve years ago Silvestri and her husband started Silvestri Sports and it has been a part of their lives ever since.

"My husband is the key operator of our business. I assist in various functions."

Silvestri said she couldn't have managed all three aspects of her life without good organizational skills.

"I'm not only balancing teaching and running a business but I also have two small children to care for." Silvestri leaves her children, ages five and 17 months, with her mother when she works.

"I'm totally comfortable leaving them with my mom. That is a big asset for me. It makes things a lot easier."

With her older daughter in school full time, Silvestri has learned how to be flexible. Silvestri said she has juggled her sports store by working after hours and at home.

"I'm able to work when I want so that's the flexibility that's involved."

Another factor in her life, which has made her two careers possible, is the age difference between her children.

"I don't think I could have had my children back-to-back and been able to do all the things that I do."

With her career and family balanced Silvestri said life is good.

"I find everything is well rounded and enjoyable right now. It is a different scenario each day."

"Both areas are fields I enjoy and I would like to see myself working for a number of years."

# Eye On Niagara

# Forum encourages women to vote

By PENNI LAFLEUR
Staff Writer

They came to sing, to talk, to share experiences and to be heard.

They came to make a difference.

Niagara Region Women's Political Action Coalition organized a women's forum on March 29 to address issues of particular concern to women.

The forum covered child care, health care, education and housing issues. The purpose of the forum was to draw awareness to these issues and to encourage women to vote to bring about change.

"We encourage women to vote together to accomplish our goals. Vote for politicians who will make that happen," said Bonnie Prentice, member of the coalition and moderator for the forum.

A feminist a cappella group, Sister Lune, opened the forum with the inspiring lyrics, "We are a gentle angry people / And we are singing, singing for our lives."

"(Ontario Premier) Mike Harris has created more hardships than any other elected leader . . . He's taking women back to the dark ages," said Rosemary Hanes, of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, to emphasize the purpose of the forum.

She said cuts in education funding "have hurt students, workers and the community." From cuts at the junior kindergarten (JK) level to adult education programs, "women are the ones most affected.

"Seventy per cent of spaces were cut from adult programs, limiting access for a second chance at a better life for women. The loss of JK impacts single women because only wealthy women can send their kids to day care."

The cuts aren't the only problem the Harris government has caused, she stressed.

Teachers were not given the new curriculum until June. The government-ordered books had erasable ink and had to be sent back and re-ordered.

"Oh, and how about the telescopes purchased that can only be used at 9 o'clock at night? A total waste of money," she said.

Hanes emphasized "all levels of education have been affected by the Tory government."

Post-secondary education will see an increase in tuition of 20 per cent. Funding cuts limit access to everyone by eliminating some government scholarships and bursaries.

"Harris commented that what he did for education he will now do for health care," Hanes said.

Margaret Jarrell, child-care provider at Design for a New Tomorrow, which covers the Niagara Region, said Canada is not living up to the United Nations resolution it signed eliminating child poverty by the year 2000.

"By 1998 the number of children living in poverty was up by 116 per cent," said Jarrell. "An increase of 85 per cent in Canada and 46 per cent of that in Ontario. That's 35 per cent more than the next province of Nova Scotia."

The provincial government funds only 20 per cent of the number of children in day care, making it harder for women to pay the cost of day-care centres.

"Private day care is fine, but usually the alternative to the cost of day-care facilities staffed by trained professionals," Jarrell said, adding all the information on the early years of child development reports a child's "mass of potential" is established in the first five or six years.

From left are Betty Farrish, Renee Fisher, Mary Ellen Dupon, Rosemary Hanes and Margaret Jarrell, guest speakers at the forum.

**Photo by Penni Lafleur**

Guest speakers included, from left, Peter Kormos, Welland MPP for the NDP, Chris Montreuil, of Women—Our Votes Count, and Maurice Charbonneau, Liberal representative, St. Catharines.

**Photo by Penni Lafleur**

She said children living in violence will be impacted in later life and will be pre-disposed to a higher rate of stroke and heart attack.

Children living in poverty cannot pay attention in school when their families live under the stress of poverty. "Child care meets those needs and does it very well."

Mary Ellen Dupon and Renee Fisher, independent activists for co-op housing, compare Harris to "the big, bad wolf."

"Everyone should have the right to social housing. The Harris Tories wanted government to get out of social housing," said Dupon, adding, "singles, seniors and the disabled have been affected by the cancellation of 17,000 co-op housing units that were to be built in the Niagara Region. With 21.6 per cent of income cut and cuts of 50 per cent in social assistance benefits, how and where are these people supposed to live?"

Fisher related her experiences with co-op housing as one of "torment" for her children. "Since the government has shifted the cost of payment for co-op housing to the the taxpayer, my children are being attacked by other children at school who say, 'My father isn't going to pay for your housing anymore,'" she said.

Betty Farrish, Niagara Region Mental Health system, said, "Changes to the mental health system have been in name only, not an improvement of the program."

She voiced concern for the "violation of human rights" that people suffering from mental health are subject to by having to carry a certificate of commitment to treatment in order to get back into the community.

"The mental health system is a repressive system, which is not in the spotlight so much. More planning needs to be done at the local level, not from the provincial level."

Chris Montreuil, of Women—Our Votes Count, said, "Women make up 52 per cent of the voting population and we will make a difference in the next election." Women—Our Votes Count is a non-partisan campaign encouraging women in Ontario to vote together to accomplish a particular goal,

> ***'Women make up 52 per cent of the voting population and we will make a difference in the next election.'***
>
> ***— Chris Montreuil***

Montreuil, organizer of the evening, voiced an "urgent need" for concern with the Harris-introduced Victims' Rights Bill.

"What did he think he was doing with that? First thing he did was cut 20 per cent of funding to shelters for abused women."

Rape crisis intervention services have been shunted over to hospitals offering little support for the victims. Women are basically checked over and then told to go home, she said.

Seventy per cent cuts to legal aid "means it's OK to abuse and rape women, the Harris government is saying," she remarked.

"Legal aid will no longer cover the cost to fight abusive husbands for custody and support; therefore, your chances are better to stay with the abusive husband than to face what's out there," she said.

They can't, however, afford to stay with an abusive husband and father, she said, since the results indicate children in that environment grow up to be "the next generation of abusive parents."

The message was clearly expressed by all speakers of the forum. "Women need to get out and vote to bring about change in government."

Politicians from the four major political parties were invited to attend; two acknowledged the invitation and attended.

Liberal representative Maurice Charbonneau, an educator for 23 years, commended the speakers for their stories on how their lives are impacted every day.

"The Harris government counted on you as an active group to remain silent and not take an active role," Charbonneau said. "There is a strong example in the U.S. right now where the turnout of women at the polls was the highest ever in the last election."

He said Liberal Party Leader Dalton McGuinty's issues deal with child poverty and addressed the First Step Document: "A dollar spent now will save seven dollars later in boot camp for 12-to-13-year-olds."

In closing, Charbonneau stressed, "You have to become active now, be vocally challenging, exercise your democratic rights to get to the polls."

Peter Kormos, Welland MPP for the NDP, said, "We have to defeat the Tory agenda. Cuts to health and social services are a brutal attack. Cuts of 21.6 per cent reduced the welfare roll because they ended up on the streets. The right-wing commitment is for income tax decrease for high-income earners."

Surprised by the evening's turnout of more than 100 people, Montreuil said, "I honestly didn't expect this many. Obviously there are a lot more women interested politically now in the Tory government then there were five years ago. It's heartening to see."

Referring to the purpose of the forum, she summarized, "The only way for change, the power has to be taken away in the next election. Hopefully politicians are aware women can make a difference and recognize that the issues are important."

# Editorial

**Niagara News**

The **Niagara News** is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College. P.O. Box 1005, 300 Woodlawn Rd., Welland, Ont. L3B 5S2. Phone (905) 735-2211 Ext. 7753/ 374-7454/ 641-2252/ 563-3254 FAX (905) 736-6005.

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## No 'common-sense'

Something stinks in this province, and we're not talking about Hamilton Harbour. We're talking about our provincial government.

For four long years, the hard-working yet unappreciated taxpayers of Ontario have endured downsizing, downloading and downgrading of our social structure.

Premier Mike Harris and his Progressive Conservatives have attacked teachers, health-care professionals, and welfare recipients, just to name a few, all in the name of the "common-sense revolution."

For those who don't know, Harris's "common-sense revolution" is basically a method of cutting the heart out of Ontario's social programs to give tax cuts to the already very wealthy. Despite overwhelming public disapproval, this government continues to follow its agenda of smokescreens and abuses of power.

Recently the government has announced great things it's doing for health care in a series of tax-funded television advertisements.

The government talks its their plan to hire up to 10,000 nurses at a cost of $375 million. It would make one wonder why it eliminated so many of these very same jobs in the past three years. The ideals of this government are, and were from the beginning, anything but "common sense."

With an election call expected soon, it's up to the voters of this province to decide for themselves.

We need to take a good look at what this government has done, and failed to do, in the past four years and ask ourselves. "How much more can we take?"

While the government spends our money discrediting its opponents in television ads, we can't forget the injustices this government is continually forcing upon us.

**Martin McQuaig**

## Killing must be stopped

Ethnic cleansing is the act of "cleaning" an area of an unwanted race of people by killing them. It was done in Germany in the 1930s by Adolf Hitler and it is going on in Kosovo.

Ethnic Albanians are being massacred by Serbs, who are burning down entire villages, all because they want control of the piece of land called Kosovo.

The root to this madness can only be ignorance.

How can one kind of people believe they are better or superior to another? How can one kind of people simply kill others because of what they look like, what they believe in, or where they came from?

We are all people. We may look different, talk differently, believe in different things, and have different origins — but we are all people.

Couldn't the Serbs learn to live with the Albanians peacefully? Albanians make up 90 per cent of the two million people living in Kosovo.

We believe the killing has to be stopped.

It is issues like these that make Canadians proud to be Canadian. We are a multi-cultural country.

Canada wears many different faces and speaks with many different voices, and for the most part, we manage to live in peace together.

We learn from each other, we share with each other, we educate each other, and we think that is what living is all about.

**Jamie White**

## Letters to the Editor

### Students appreciated

Dear Editor:

This is a letter concerning Student Appreciation Day held on Wednesday, March 17.

Thousands of cookies, ballots and smiles later, Student Appreciation Day finally ended on a cheerful and satisfying note.

On behalf of the students on Niagara College, we want to thank all staff of the college for their very genuine, creative and generous efforts toward our Student Appreciation Day event.

Over and over again, students expressed their surprise and appreciation for the day-long opportunity to enjoy free food and beverages, entertainment, costumed visitors, games of skill and chance, office decorations and the many opportunities to win prizes.

We also heard about the many kind and supportive words of encouragement expressed by staff to students in classrooms and offices throughout the college.

A special thanks to those who offered discounted products and all staff who provided behind-the-scenes support.

We hope the day was an enjoyable and memorable for you as it obviously was for our students.

Thanks again.

**Brigitte Chiki,**
**Lou DiMattio,**
**Student Services Division**

### Thanks from Hungary

Dear Editor:

Phyllis Barnatt, co-ordinator of Niagara College Journalism-Print program, has been kind enough to send me copies of the *Niagara News* over the past several years.

They are employed as supplementary material and are eagerly awaited by my students, who study English at a senior level at this university in Budapest.

They read the *Niagara News* with great interest, because they know it is produced by students their age, with similar aspirations and challenges, who live in a totally different culture far away.

Many thanks for enriching my students' academic lives with some Canadian culture.

**George A. Blazetich,**
**Professor,**

**The Hungarian University of Physical Education**
**Budapest, Hungary**

**Editor's Note:** *George Blazetich was a longtime professor at Niagara College. He has been teaching in Budapest, Hungary, for a number of years at Hungarian University of Physical Education in the Foreign Languages Department.*

**Last Edition April 23**

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# Viewpoints

# Armed, dangerous yet so young

## Parents last to know

By CASSANDRA EVERSON
Staff Writer

It's a situation many aren't aware of, don't dwell on and may be too frightening to contemplate.

What I'm talking about is children and knives. These are young people in the upper grades of public school and the lower grades of high school. They aren't sure what they want to do with their lives yet already are heading towards death.

Late on the night of March 15, I had a disturbing reality check. My 15-year-old brother, Justin, came home a half hour late on his curfew. My mother works steady nights in St. Catharines so I have to report these kinds of things to her, and it's a good thing I do . . . my brother was late because he stopped a knife fight from happening.

A knife fight! Can you imagine the pictures that went through my mind?

I couldn't believe it! Two of my brother's friends, both aged 15, were ready to use knives on a former friend because of a fight earlier in the evening, which hadn't involved them. There they were though, ready to use a switchblade and a hunting knife on someone, once seen as a friend now an enemy.

What, exactly, is it that possesses young people to carry knives these days? True, I have known for a long time that people carry knives but the last time it struck this close to home was nearly two years ago.

I was at a teen dance and my other younger brother, now 15, was there as well. He was holding onto a knife for another young man who was dancing and didn't want to be caught with his knife. I freaked! I took the knife away from my brother, intending to give it to the bouncer and point out the owner, when the owner of the knife decided he wanted his knife back.

This young man had another smaller knife with him, and three other friends. My brother and I were threatened. I hadn't thought of that incident, until now.

My brother, Justin, did the right thing when he stopped his friends and took the knives away. The outcome could have been different however, had they decided he was no longer their friend.

The world is crazy enough as it is. For me, it just got more frightening. My mother would never have known about this if I hadn't quizzed my brother. She probably would never have thought to ask if my brother, or his friends, carried knives or had ever intended to use them. I wonder how many other parents are in the dark about this kind of situation?

How many other young people are using, carrying or threatening retaliation with knives? How many more young people are out there who have been threatened, or know of such a situation, and are too scared or ignorant to say anything?

Scary thoughts. I don't have any answers. Do you?

## Protecting children means banning child pornography

By CASSANDRA SIMONS
Staff Writer

The issue is child pornography.

Should people have the right to possess it?

A judge in British Columbia says the section of the Criminal Code dealing with possession of child pornography contradicts the Charter of Rights and Freedoms regarding thought, belief, opinion and expression.

That judge ruled possession of child pornography is not a crime. However, it is illegal according to the Criminal Code.

How is it a judge could say it is okay to possess child pornography when the Criminal Code says it is not?

Child pornography is a form of child molestation and abuse.

The case here is on appeal in the Supreme Court of British Columbia. If that court rules the same way the issue may then go to the Supreme Court of Canada.

How can people consider child pornography to be exciting?

Should people have the right to use children to sexually arouse themselves?

The law is supposed to help us protect our children, our brothers and our sisters. How can we trust a system whose own judges won't abide by the law? Can we trust a system in which a judge basically says 'Go ahead. Degrade and use children for your own enjoyment.'?

Child pornography is disgusting, and has no place in our society.

Children should be considered one of our highest treasures. We should do everything in our power to protect them.

# Rocky road sometimes best trip

## Adversity builds character

By MANDI SPEELMAN
*Staff Writer*

Life is the capacity for growth, functional activity and continual change until death.

It is the most important gift given to man, yet it's the most misunderstood.

It's a lifetime of learning, creating obstacles for ourselves and finding ways to overcome them. In other words, what are we learning when we find ourselves doing the same thing over and over, day after day?

Sure there's time for the family, sitting together and watching television, and only speaking to one another when someone wants the remote-control, or wants someone to pass the chips. It's rare to see families sitting together, playing games, going for walks or even having long talks with each other.

The misunderstanding lies within us. There's no quick way to solve life's problems. People tell us they have the answers, and if we pay a reasonable amount for their book, tape, and seminar, then we'll live full and happy lives.

The truth is you may feel motivated to change, but when life's little curve balls are suddenly flying at you once again, you feel confused, wondering why you're not happy even though "the man on the tape told me so."

The media don't help by telling us our lives could be so much better if we only looked and acted a certain way. Realizing nothing lasts forever, we end up losing our identity and hating ourselves even more. People who enjoy their lives accept themselves regardless of what anyone thinks.

Technology could be considered either a good contribution or a bad one to society by making it, at the push of a button, think and do things for us, to make our lives "less stressful."

We can never have a computer *substitute for our minds, which is the most powerful object in the* world, but the least used. In the future our lives are only going to be used for talking on the Internet and finding more buttons for us to push to make our lives "better."

We'll lose our sense of reality, being isolated all day and not going outside to get some fresh air.

If we can find the time, we can learn a lot just by looking up at the moon and stars, realizing that we are a part of something bigger than the little boxed-in superficial world we've created for ourselves.

The truth is, we shouldn't look for an easy way out of any life situation and understanding life's mysteries. Sometimes we need to let that curve ball knock the side of our head to find the strength within ourselves to get up again and overcome obstacle after obstacle.

# Miss Manners would be shocked

## No longer taught or forgotten?

By AMBER BIRKBECK
Staff Writer

If you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all.

In our society good manners seem to be considered "uncool" by almost everyone.

Maybe this is why so many people have high blood pressure and seem to be under so much stress. A simple thing such as holding a door for someone, thanking someone who holds a door for you, or even pushing a chair in can mean a world of difference.

Just lately I have noticed more and more just how many people were obviously not taught proper manners growing up, or have lost them somewhere along the way.

This has become more clear to me since my boyfriend and I moved into an apartment with a third party.

The third party has few, if any, manners and is always using and borrowing our things without asking. He leaves his dirty dishes piled in the kitchen sink. In cases like this, manners are rooted in respect for the other people, an attitude which this person obviously doesn't have.

It doesn't take too much effort to apologize every now and then, yet some people never do.

I'm in no way saying we shouldn't let our children be children, but we should teach them to respect other people as well as themselves. Good manners never go out of style.

# Viewpoints

## Co-op almost ruins dream

### *Co-op employers should tell students what to do, not assume they know*

By MEGAN ROSS
Staff Writer

Finally, I am writing for the *Niagara News*, my goal since I started Niagara College's Journalism-Print program in September.

I still wonder how I got here, however.

I found at the end of high school, I didn't know what I wanted to be. I wasn't good at much, except writing.

So, there I was, at the end of high school. What to do next? I had always been planning to take a year off to work.

I didn't find a job, so I registered at a different school since my parents had moved in the middle of my graduating year. I wanted to take a co-op and raise my OAC English mark.

I got a co-op at the *Flamborough Post*, a local paper in Waterdown, Ont. This was my chance, or so I thought. I don't know what I was really expecting, but I know it wasn't what I got.

The editor, Don Redmond, seemed to be a laid-back guy, and the other reporters seemed nice too. I thought I would learn a lot. I didn't.

I admit, I went in blind. I had only written stories, romances mainly, that I never finished. I had no idea what it took to write an article. I don't believe Don realized that.

He assigned me an article, the first one I had ever written. I forgot to get the person's name. Don hadn't told me to and he didn't mention that I should in the future. He just said, "Get quotes," so I did.

I wrote the article. It wasn't that bad, but it could have used a lot of work now that I look back on it.

At the Post, I typed in articles and helped proofread the paper. I now wish I had known Canadian Press style. I found it a pain to go there since I wasn't learning anything. They could have taught me how to do a layout of a page, or how to write a proper lead or headline.

Near the end, Don became annoyed with me and went to the instructors of the co-op program. He complained I wasn't going out and finding stories.

I didn't know what a story was. I mean, I didn't know how to do a proper interview or go out and find a story. Don could have easily taken me aside and explained to me what it is to be a reporter.

It was not a very good experience. It almost made me give up. I was tempted to just forget about school and find a full-time job and work.

I'm glad I didn't let that get me down, since I am now writing for this newspaper and I know how to write.

Best of all, I can read the *Flamborough Post* and find mistakes. One reporter there doesn't know how to write a good lead.

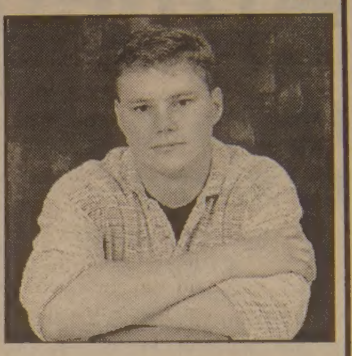
Yes, co-op can be a very rewarding experience, if you have a good employer who realizes students come in with no real knowledge of what to do.

This was experience at a newspaper, one that will sit on my résumé. I know if I ever become an editor and take on a co-op student, I will teach that student what to do, not just expect the him or her to already know.

So, thanks for nothing, Don.

## PCs listen to money

By SAM BAYLY
Staff Writer



To get the ear of Ontario Premier Mike Harris, you need to pay only a few thousand dollars to StrategyCorp.

StrategyCorp is a company run by Leslie Noble. This firm, on behalf of its clients, lobbies the provincial government. Noble is one of the writers of the Progressive Conservatives' Common Sense Revolution and a top adviser to the premier.

Do some businesses think spending time writing to and petitioning this government is a waste of time? After all, you could give a couple of thousand dollars, unlike Ontario Hydro which paid $91,000, to a company that will get your issue onto the Tories' table in no time.

Ethically, this is not a fair practice. In a letter to the *Toronto Star*, Noble said she doesn't talk to the premier but the party leader. This is not reasonable. The fact is, at this very moment, Harris is our premier. What you say to him and what business you conduct with him should be done with that in mind.

What sort of government do we have at Queen's Park? Are the members of that government only politicians during office hours? It would be great if we could tell our teachers that we don't do homework because we are only students at school, not at home.

Do we really trust this man to separate the affairs of his political party from the affairs of the province? Was there ever a separation in the first place?

Is this bribery? Certainly not. They are just paying a company—with friends in high places—to get the province to notice them.

As for the workers in the public sector, they have to strike and picket the province with the hope Harris may hear them and, if they're lucky, acknowledge them.

Folks, this is democracy. This is capitalism. This is life. As long as you and I are happy with the way things are, this is how business will be done in Ontario. Maybe our schools and hospitals should hire Noble's StrategyCorp. Would the premier listen then?

## Alternative to suicide

### *Teens should turn to loved ones, not to death*

By JENNIFER MAGO
Staff Writer

What is it that corrupts a young person's soul so deeply he or she would commit suicide?

Yes, life is more often hard than easy. If we sit in a corner and cry, hiding from life's burdens, then where would we find ourselves? We'd be standing still while the rest of the world moves forward.

Teen suicide is increasing. It saddens me. These aren't children looking for attention. If that were so they wouldn't have gone through with it. These are children so lost they see no other escape from their pain. Some feel misunderstood and unloved or are fighting a fear they don't understand.

I'm not in any way trying to label anyone who has thought about suicide, nor am I trying to justify it. I'm only trying to say it saddens me.

I wonder if they're thinking about the people around them who love them. I also wonder if they see their loved ones' tears in their mind when they think of their escape with no return.

At some time in your life you're going to feel unloved. It's never the truth.

If you look hard enough you will always find at least one person willing to hug you, listen to you or just be with you. That's what love is.

People are going to let you down sometimes. Nobody means to, but it happens. When you start to push these people away, they will only become distant towards you out of confusion and hurt.

Let them love you, and live another day.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# Eye On Niagara

# Drive Clean soon to come to Niagara

By MEGAN ROSS
Staff Writer

Smog is a killer. The government has a solution.

Ontario's Drive Clean Program is a new mandatory vehicle emissions-testing program that will help reduce harmful smog.

The program will test vehicles in the Greater Toronto Area and Hamilton-Wentworth Region. The program will start testing in the Niagara Region in 2001.

The program runs on two, two-year cycles. The first cycle is to test all cars in the Niagara Region by 2003. The second cycle will test cars that were given exceptions or were missed in the first round of testing. This should be completed by 2005.

The Drive Clean Program will send out notices informing drivers their cars must be tested. The timing of these notices will be based on license plate renewals. Once the test is given, drivers will receive a report stating whether their car has passed or failed.

This report will have a reference number on it, along with the license plate and car registration numbers, so that the reports can not be forged.

A car will have to be tested every two years. Cars who have regular maintenance should pass the test. They are testing cars that are between four and 20 years old.

The emission-test takes about 20 minutes and costs $30. If a car fails, the owner has 60 days to fix the problem and get re-tested, at a cost of $15. If a car doesn't come back to be tested within the 60-day period, the owner will be charged the full $30.

Daryl Smith, 20, is a Niagara College Journalism-Print program student who said the Drive Clean program is a "good idea."

"A lot of old cars pollute. Thirty dollars isn't that much to help out with the earth," said Smith.

Jessica Wylie, 18, a Legal Assistant (Co-op) program student, said it's a "good idea for saving the environment," but there are more things the government could do that wouldn't cost money.

*Good idea for saving the environment*

Kristy Fiddles, 18, another Legal Assistant (Co-op) program student, said she doesn't understand why "we" have to pay for this program when the government continues to build highways for cars to drive on.

In response, Charles Ross, senior communications officer for the Ministry of Energy and Environment's Drive Clean Program, said the program is part of the cost of responsible car ownership and operation.

Ross said since people are insisting on the right to drive, the government is insisting that they be responsible for the car they're driving. "We are not trying to push people off the road."

Ross explained smog is one of the greatest threats to health. It has serious effects on breathing and is particularly dangerous to people with asthma, bronchitis and heart disease. It has more severe long-term effects on children and the elderly.

He said the biggest single source of smog is automobile emissions. It's estimated there are 1,500 to 1,800 people sent to hospital each year suffering from respiratory problems caused by smog.

The program results, Ross stated, will take a few years to show reductions in smog levels. People have to be patient, for these problems were not created overnight and can't be solved overnight.

*'We are not trying to push people off the road.' — Charles Ross*

Ross said the best advice he can give to students is that when buying a car, make sure it has been tested and there is a report to prove it has passed.

He said some local garages are advertising pre-emission tests. These testers are not accredited Drive Clean mechanics and do not have any knowledge of the testing process.

For more information on the Drive Clean Program, call 1-888-758-2999, or visit http://www.drive-clean.com.

NINE TIPS FOR DRIVING CLEAN

1. Is your vehicle in-tune? A poorly tuned engine can consume an average of 10 per cent more fuel.
2. One equals 20. One poorly tuned vehicle can emit pollutants equivalent to 20 properly tuned cars.
3. Don't let your engine idle. Excessive idling pollutes. Turn off the engine whenever you can.
4. Low tires put pressure on fuel. Properly inflated tires improve fuel performance.
5. Ninety is optimum. The best fuel economy for most vehicles is under 90 km/h.
6. Light is right. The heavier the car, the more fuel it burns. Avoid unnecessary weight.
7. Plan your trips. Save money by planning activities and combining errands to reduce the number of times you start your vehicle.
8. Share the ride. Car pooling or ride sharing reduces the number of vehicles on the road.
9. Be aerodynamic. Reducing wind resistance on the highway cuts fuel consumption. Try rolling up the windows and opening the vents.

# Balancing motherhood with school

By MONICA PALINIEWICZ
Staff Writer

"Being 19 years old and a college student is difficult enough but having a child while in school is even harder," says a young mother.

Laurie Herrit, 21, of Thorold, is a graduate of Niagara College who worked hard to achieve stability and support for her two-year-old daughter, Tory.

While in school, Herrit spent her days studying in the Environmental Health and Safety Co-ordinator program.

"I chose this course for two reasons only," says Herrit. "One, because the scheduling was convenient so I could spend more time with my daughter, and two, because when I was in high school, I loved Environmental Biology. Now I look back and see how regulated it was compared to college."

After a year and a half of training, Herrit went on to do her co-op, which she says was the "worst experience ever."

Herrit says, "I did my co-op at Acres Analytical Association, in Niagara Falls, and it was awful. Little of my education was put to use and I spent eight months photocopying stuff for the company and not getting paid."

While at Niagara, Herrit says the class she "enjoyed the most" was on sample analysis. In this course, she says she received "hands-on experience and got to go out and test everything from toilet water to lake water."

Herrit says her "favourite thing about college life" was that it was "not so restricted."

*'Memorable experiences were few and far between.' — Laurie Herrit*

"It's so different from high school. You get more freedom and respect as an adult than you do in high school."

Although college was a "good" experience for her, Herrit says she "had conflicts with managing between a daughter, school and a social life."

"I went to school for Tory to better myself as a mother by receiving an education to further myself in the job industry. She was only six months old when I started, but I knew I had to be responsible for my child and do something so that I could create a stable future for ourselves."

While going through school and raising a child, Herrit says her concept of time was "out of whack."

"I would go to school, come home, take care of Tory, put her to bed and then do homework till one or two in the morning. Constant tiredness was the norm for me back then."

Studying was a "problem factor," says Herrit. "I just couldn't get into my studies. I would study just to pass, not to accumulate all the information. It was just so difficult."

Memorable experiences, says Herrit, were "few and far between." Her having a newborn child to raise and trying to manage time for her studies meant a "social life was almost unexpected."

"Although I rarely went out, I still had a good time with the friends I met at Niagara. My parents were really cool with babysitting a night on the weekend, but I usually would feel too guilty leaving my baby so I would just stay home."

After graduation, in April 1998, Herrit says she "took a break for four months to be with Tory" and then ended up getting a job at National Steel Car (NSC), in Hamilton.

"The job at NSC is going very well. It pays good money and puts my experience to work. It's excellent."

Herrit says she feels she was "very fortunate for getting this job so soon after graduation," considering some of her fellow classmates are still "looking for jobs in their field of training."

When it comes to education at Niagara, Herrit says it was "all right" but a few changes could be made to "improve the system."

"I think the program should be longer and more focused on field work. Even though the actual discussion and lecture parts are informative, I think that the actual application of our learning is more important."

Herrit says she has a few other ideas for "improvements on the college's education."

*Improving system*

"The courses tended to get too repetitive, and too much time was spent reviewing. If the teachers aimed their classes more to the stuff at hand, rather then reviewing the same topic for three weeks, when it wasn't necessary, maybe I wouldn't be so negative on the education system at Niagara."

Although to Herrit, Niagara had its "flaws" with the teaching habits, she says that her college experience was "OK."

Herrit says, "Maybe if Tory didn't happen when she did (not that I regret her), things would have worked out better for me at Niagara. Although I graduated and now have a stable job, I can't help but feel that I missed out in the social aspect of college life. Regardless, I'm proud of what I have accomplished and proud that I did it all for my daughter."

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# International

# Ambrose enjoys experiencing new things

By NATSUKO TAMURA
Staff Writer

She's not a person of "routine."

Carolyn Ambrose, 33, of Fonthill, works at Niagara College as a development officer providing direct support to international students who enrol in the college's programs.

Ambrose was born in Winnipeg, Man., as the first daughter and grew up in Mississauga. "I'm very, very close to my parents," she says. She considers herself to be "very" lucky. Though she doesn't live with them, she visits weekly and goes out with them. She says having a good relationship with her parents means it was hard to leave home.

Ambrose went to Brock University in St. Catharines. She says she wanted to study in a small university and Brock had a Teaching English as a Second Language program (TESL), in which she was interested. In Spring 1990 she graduated with a bachelor of arts in TESL and sociology.

The first job she got was for four months as a teacher at Parkdale Secondary School in Toronto. She says she liked her job and it was "funny" because she had to teach students at different levels of English in the same class.

In 1991, Ambrose stepped into a new world. She got an opportunity to work in Japan. Her interest in foreign cultures didn't stop her from leaving her home country. She was accepted as a private English conversation school as a teacher.

She says she remembers clearly the day she landed in Japan for the first time. While driving at night to where she would stay, all she saw from the car window were tons of vending machines on the streets, lighting up the darkness.

She stayed in Iwaki, Fukushima, for 14 months. She says she didn't "really" feel culture shock as others did since she's a "curious person." She says "it was fun" to teach the students because "people were very, very nice and were interested in learning English."

## *Teaching in Japan*

She taught 26 classes a week in the school's various locations. On the other hand, she says she missed her family "very much." She wrote or called them every week. Approaching the date when her contract ended, she made a decision to go back home. "I couldn't improve my teaching skills any more. I wanted a new challenge."

Back in Canada, she was hired as a teacher of English as a Second Language (ESL) at Niagara College. "I felt professional." She says she enjoyed teaching students from different countries in a "mixed class," as she learned more about each culture.

Since then, she has been in and out of the college for six years on various contracts.

In her private life, she says she was happy and "really" liked living in St. Catharines. The city was where she went to school and where old friends were at that time. "I was in my element."

Accepted to teacher's college at Brock, she says she made up her mind to go back to school because she had been applying to the program for four years. She successfully earned the teaching certificate at the primary and junior level one year later.

"I wanted to be a primary school teacher," but it was difficult to find a job at that time, she says. In the summer of 1994, she came back and continued teaching in the ESL program at Niagara.

The next year, she was to head for Latin America. "I knew I wanted to work one more year overseas. I hoped to go to a developing country because Japan was highly developed." She says when she discovered Mexico in the listed countries, she felt "this is it."

As well, she says she was interested in Latin music and wanted to learn Spanish.

For Ambrose, 1995 was "hot" and "hard." She went to Chiapas, the poorest state, in the far south of Mexico. "It was much different," she says, comparing her experience in Japan.

She says her students in Mexico studied two hours a day from Monday to Friday, while those in Japan did one hour every week, so she could see more Mexican students improving. She says she liked the job because her boss gave her a lot of freedom and let her decide whatever she wanted to do in class.

Outside the classroom, Ambrose says she learned cultural and traditional values in Mexico. One thing that interested her was Mexican history.

She says she found Mexicans have their own heroes, who she thought were "true fighters." She says there was a political situation in Chiapas where rebels were fighting against the government. People living in Chiapas are "very closed-minded and very traditional. They don't value independence, and men and women have very distinct roles."

She says it was more difficult to adjust to Mexican culture than Japanese, and she had to learn to stop doing what was natural to her, such as cooking for herself, cleaning her room and going out by herself. Referring to the macho element of Mexican culture, she says, "I was accustomed to opening my own door, so I had to change my thinking."

***'I learned to open my mind and be flexible.'***

***—Carolyn Ambrose***

Although she tried following the Mexican way of life, there was something she ended up doing on her own. "I loved walking downtown on the main street on Sunday nights," she says, adding she would just watch people and listen to lots of music while walking. "I loved the energy."

She'd often come across her students and be asked, "Who are you with?"

"Nobody. . ." she would answer.

"Mexicans don't like to be alone. They openly show their opinions," she says, making it different from Japan where the people leave you alone and let you do whatever you want.

Ambrose says she'd spend Sundays alone, getting her bearings. She values her private time, writing letters, listening to music or cooking food. She says she also studied Spanish. "I love the sound of Spanish and Latin music."

She also likes old jazz, classical music and music of the '80s. The music lover is not the only one in her family. Her brother, 30, is studying music in university to be a singer, and her mother is a music teacher.

After completing her contract in Mexico, she's back at the desk at Niagara. Looking back at her experience, she says, "I learned to open my mind and be flexible. I have good perspectives of Canadian ways, so I think I can understand some culture shock. I got to think about what other people think. That helped me a lot."

She says she's always wanted to take part in a community place where people study language and do cultural activities and sports.

Asked what makes her life happy, she says it can only be one word: "variety." Her interests are "varied," she says, adding she loves listening to live music in a small setting, going to cultural festivals and trying new wine and restaurants. She usually hangs out with small groups.

"I'm not a person of routine. I always want to experience something new."

# Graduate working in hospitality industry

By NATSUKO TAMURA
Staff Writer

A few years later, she's now making her living.

Noriko Mitsuyasu, 26, of Japan, is a graduate of Niagara College's Office Administration program.

She has been working at Hospitality Motels Ltd. in Niagara Falls for two years. She works as a Japanese guest services co-ordinator.

She says she helps Japanese tourists groups or individuals make hotel reservations and arrange their schedules. As well, she says once tourists arrive, she takes care of everything they need by having dinner together or accompanying them on the tour.

She says she "really" enjoys working in an office environment, but "it's good to know how the hotel and restaurant work."

She says she doesn't get any financial support from her parents any more. "I don't make much money," but she says she manages to pay her bills.

When Mitsuyasu started working, she says she had a hard time getting used to the job because there were "many technical things" she didn't know.

"I found it very difficult to listen and pronounce words correctly on the phone," she says, adding people hung up the phone on her many times or asked to speak with the other person who speaks English. She also says it took some time to be comfortable in her workplace and get along with her colleagues. She says she was nervous and couldn't get into the conversations with them.

She started the Office Administration program in January 1996. The program requires three terms of study and two terms of co-operative education.

She says she liked the program "very much" though it was hard for her.

She took the summer program to catch up with the September students, so she didn't work in summer. Instead, she arranged to work for eight straight months after completing on-campus study, while other students had work experience twice each year.

She says she found the job in a Japanese-based newspaper. After finishing her co-op program, she was able to stay in the office. She says she was "very" lucky because not many international students are likely to get hired after their co-op program.

Mitsuyasu says her communication skills have improved through her work as well as her computer skills. "I'm taking advantage of what I learned at the college. It's very useful." She says she knew computer operations better than her co-workers did.

## *She likes Canada*

From her work experience, she says it's not easy to work in a different country. She's working under a work visa and says she had trouble last year and failed to extend it.

"I was forced to go back home." She says she didn't understand the conditions the Canadian government issued. "That was not fair."

In Japan, she went to the Canadian Embassy to get a work visa, which was a "pain in the butt. The officers were very unwilling to issue it. I had about two-hour interview. That was crazy."

Facing the bitter situation of being an international worker, she says she wants to immigrate to Canada. She says she's been applying to Citizenship and Immigration Canada for more than one year, but she hasn't had any luck. She says it would be nice to be an immigrant since "I could stay here as long as I want and can go home whenever I want."

Asked about her future, she says she wants to continue working in Canada. She says the more she came to understand the job, the more responsibilities she had to have.

"I'm having more fun than before," she says, adding she's getting along well with her co-workers. "They're very nice and funny."

She says she thinks it might be easier to work in Canada in terms of the relationship with a boss or seniors. "In Japanese society, you can't usually joke around and laugh with them."

Mitsuyasu says she takes a business trip to Tokyo, Japan, once a year with the director of sales. At that time, she says she's allowed to go home for a week. "I appreciate it. It's a fun trip."

She works 40 hours a week and she makes her own timetable. She commutes from Welland to work. "I love driving."

She says she came to Canada in May 1994 to study English because she wanted to speak it. Although she went to the college for two years in Japan and majored in English, she couldn't communicate well in English. She took the English as a Second Language program at Niagara for a year. Looking back on her school life, "I miss going to school sometimes."

She likes her life in Canada because "it's a country where you can do whatever you want in a good way. Here, in a multi-cultural society, being different from others is accepted and recognized."

"In Canada, if you want to go back to school, you can do it at any time. That makes more options in life, but it doesn't work that way in Japan. I feel I have more freedom here than in Japan."

She says Canadian people are "friendly and warm-hearted," especially in a small city. "That's why I like Welland," she says, adding she "loves" nature in Canada and doing outside activities.

# Eye On Niagara

# New women's course for students

By MANDI SPEELMAN
Staff Writer

It's a course to help women get in touch with themselves.

"The whole concept of being part of mind, body and soul is the main focus that you'll hear throughout the course," says Roberta Gazzellone, 41, of Thorold.

Gazzellone teaches institutional pharmacy concepts, well-being female challenge, and human biology and assists with the lab component of the Pharmacy Assistant program at the Welland campus.

"My main focus is Pharmacy Assistant, but I teach in General Education too," she says.

"I've worked here for six years and always thought that we needed a women's studies course because there was a lot of women at the college, but they weren't really addressing the needs of women."

She says she approached the director about offering a course that was female based. It started to develop in October.

"It's the course I have the most fun in because with the students we get a lot of discussion going back and forth. For the most part, I enjoy it."

Gazzellone says with a "fairly almost female class you can let things come out."

"People feel less inhibited when you have a group of females. Chances are we wouldn't have had any lively discussions or as many people coming forward with intimate details about their life."

She says, "If there were males in the class, we wouldn't have had that opportunity.

"We're a more collected society that's living with the type of males that are very individualistic."

Gazzellone says the "whole well-being of mind, body and soul" is developed among topics discussed in the course like "kinds of relationships. If you're not well within yourself, you can't be well within the relationship."

"There's isn't a prerequisite to get in. You just have to want to be willing to grow; if you don't know yourself too well and you're willing to open up to yourself, so that you're able to see some parts that you might not have seen before, or that you didn't want to see."

She says women and men "grow so much differently" from each other, and it's "nice to know that it's not wrong, it's just different, and that we can be appreciative of the differences between the two genders as well."

Leanna Hill, 19, of the General Arts and Sciences program at the Welland campus, says, "It seemed interesting. It would be something to help me out a lot, like being informative about just general things about women."

Hill, of Welland, says there's "a lot of writing" in the class and "thought that there would be more discussion."

"It's really helpful and really specific in the way that women should know about. I liked the class when we talked about medicines."

Carolyn Hurst, registered nurse at the Welland campus, says women are becoming more outspoken, demonstrative and determined to seek their own way.

"We want to flower and do whatever we want to do. If we could empower the women to feel good about themselves that they won't be dominated by male male pressure or expectations."

Hurst, of Fonthill, says the course "gives you information about who you are and how great women are and how unique they are. It will make you a stronger person and you'll find yourself sooner to meet the challenges ahead."

# Security officer enjoys job at campus

By SHANNON DEARY
Staff Writer

She's a security officer all the way.

Diane Thiessen, 51, of St. Catharines, is one of the security officers for Niagara College's Welland campus.

Thiessen said it was something she "just chose to do."

"About 22 years ago, I wanted to get a part-time job to get out of the house, so I answered an ad in the newspaper for a security officer and started working at the General Hospital in St. Catharines, in the maternity ward," said Thiessen.

She said she switched to emergency ward before she went full time to the ticket booth.

At Niagara, Thiessen said she "just basically patrols around," but hasn't been in any "tough situations."

"I really enjoy working here."

Outside of security, Thiessen said she has two daughters and five grandchildren.

"I like to take them ice skating, to hockey games and to movies."

Thiessen said she also likes to take her grandchildren to Choo Choo Charlie's, a restaurant in St. Catharines, and to Disney World in Florida. However, she said, she doesn't really like to travel.

"I'm not the travelling type. I'd rather stay home."

Thiessen said she likes working at the college, as she loves children.

"It's a good experience and you can meet all facets of people, young and old." Thiessen said dealing with other people, you have to be a good listener and be able to handle responsibilities.

*'Like any job learning how to get along is the main thing.'*

*— Diane Thiessen*

"I've learned to become a better person and to be more understanding towards people."

She said if there is ever a crisis, she tries not to get too much involved "but it is a learning experience."

Thiessen said the security officers are well respected and they all get along. She said if she was asked to *do something by the boss, "you just* do it and don't think."

"Like any job, learning how to get along is the main thing.

"We sometimes get together outside of work for a barbecue or for Christmas, but at work we pretty much do our own thing."

Thiessen said her future plans are to remain working at Niagara College.

# 'Life's an opportunity,' says nurse

## *Accessible to those who need it*

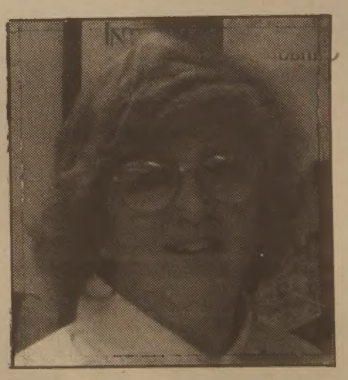
By JAMIE McINTOSH
Staff Writer

If you have a health problem, registered nurse Carolyn Hurst is here to help.

Hurst has worked at Niagara College's Welland campus Health Centre, which is across the hall from the Donut Diner, since Aug. 12, 1991.

Hurst, who lives in Fonthill, has more than 25 years' experience in health-related fields, but has yet to graduate from university. She said she has the experience but "needed the paper."

She began taking courses at the University of Toronto in 1988 and has since transferred to D'youville College in Buffalo, N.Y. "I'm happy to say I'll graduate in May of this year," said Hurst, with a smile.



CAROLYN HURST

### *Lots of responsibility*

Although she primarily works alone, Hurst sends some students to college counsellors.

If needed, she gets help from security, whom she can contact with a new, "wonderful" radio system called the Emergency System Response. "They're the only ones on campus with uniforms," said Hurst. "The ambulance will notice them before me. They're also good for crowd control."

Although she has "lots of responsibility," Hurst said she enjoys her job. As a registered nurse at the college, Hurst does everything from helping students with research for papers to giving women information about pregnancies. Hurst said she encourages students to make their own decisions based on the information she can give them.

If students need to speak with a doctor, they can see Dr. Valerie Jaeger on Fridays. "I've died and gone to heaven, she's so great. We are so lucky to have her," said Hurst. "She's excellent with the students."

The Health Centre is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The centre is closed on Thursdays. If there is an emergency in the school, dial zero and ask the switchboard to connect you to the nurse or to security.

Hurst's advice to students is "play as hard as you work. Life's an opportunity."

# Eye on Niagara

# Inspirational quotes motivate student

## *It's never too late to start all over*

By PENNI LAFLEUR
Staff Writer

Inspirational quotes can serve as motivational "healers" for some.

Along with a positive attitude, the simplest phrase can add some perspective for those dealing with personal tragedy.

"Life is what happens to you when you are busy making plans," reads a quote posted on Jackie Comeau's refrigerator.

Comeau, 43, of Niagara-on-the-Lake, says it's up there as a "source of motivation" for herself and her family.

A single mother of three sons, Comeau is a January-start student in the Office Administration program at Niagara College. After working at General Motors (GM) for 13 years, returning to college was "the last thing" she wanted to do.

"I never thought after all these years I would need to look into retraining for a new job."

She says she used to be a physically active person who "enjoyed" hard work. "A physical workout meant a mental workout for me. As long as I was busy I was happy."

In 1991, Comeau crushed two discs in her back while working on an assembly line at GM. She says the injury could have been avoided "if only they would have listened to me."

"I was working on the V6 dress line assembling exhaust manifolds to the engines. The problem was I had to bend over and reach into a wire basket to get the manifolds. I could feel the pressure in my back, so when I requested a new setup for the operation my supervisor sent over an engineer. I took the engineer to the V8 assembly operation and showed him the hydraulic lifts used there to tilt the baskets to get to the bottom layers. He said it wasn't 'financially feasible' at the time to install the lifts at my workstation, and I was given a platform instead."

She says her doctor told her that by bending at the waist with the combined weight of the manifold "a great big man would have gotten hurt doing the same thing."

Comeau says she was off work for two years receiving therapy at the Canadian Back Institute and collecting benefits from the Workers' Compensation Board.

She says therapy didn't help, so in 1993 she underwent back surgery having a "steel plate and six screws" placed in her back. She says the added stress of a failing marriage, combined with the physical pain from surgery, made her recovery "difficult."

She says she returned to work at GM in a clerical job one year after surgery. "Physically it was a job I could handle and it was real important for me to get back to work. I needed to build up my self-esteem and self-confidence again. Having had the injury at the same time as the end of my marriage made me feel like a real failure."

JACKIE COMEAU

She says the time spent in the clerical job at GM was a "real time of growth" for her.

"The bosses I had were great and really helped me recover. I really felt like I belonged there."

In May 1998 she was laid off from GM. She says she felt she had to "do something" so she requested a psychological assessment by the compensation board, and the test results recommended retraining in office management.

"It was hard having to give up that GM paycheque, especially being a single mother, and I have always been a high-income earner. Mike, my fiancé, is a wonderful guy who just thinks I am 'something else,' but in order to feel equal I want to be an equal contributor."

She says she was "scared to death" about attending college. "I felt like I had to do it and I had to excel to show my kids I could do it. I wanted to set a good example. Now that I've been here for two months I feel I want to do this. At first there was no balance in my life, but I get total support from my fiancé and I've realized that getting 90s isn't as important. I needed to have a balance between school, home and leisure. There was too much stress at first. Now that I'm relaxed I'm enjoying it."

***'I never thought after all these years I would need to look into retraining for a new job.'***

***— Jackie Comeau***

She says at first she only intended to complete the one-year program in Office Administration, but after a review by the Vocational Rehabilitation program at the compensation board, her adjudicator has encouraged her to go on to the second-year Executive Co-op option.

Prior to working at GM, Comeau worked for 11 years as a medical lab assistant at the Queenston Medical Lab in St. Catharines. "When I graduate from this program I would like to get back into the medical field working in or managing an office environment. I'm basically a people person. I get along with everybody and I enjoy working directly with the customer and client, not behind the scenes."

She says although she attended college reluctantly, the program is "everything I expected it to be."

"I was under too much stress at first, especially with the math. It has always been my weakness, but I have to get it. I have to put forth a lot of effort without stressing out about it. Being relaxed helps me get through it, but I am much more confident in the other courses."

She says as a "mature student" she feels her teachers treat her differently than the younger students in her program. "I feel that I, and other mature students in the program, are treated with much more respect, which isn't really fair."

She says she enjoys attending Niagara, but finds one area in need of improvement is the workstation.

"Ergonomically correct workstations should be introduced for the students in the computer labs. The positioning of the desk is too high and there are no footrests. Simple solutions to avoid major problems. After everything I have been through it makes all the difference in the world."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# 1999 Photography Awards

Angela Pickering (left) won third-place news, Aaron Beaudoin won second-place sports, Sean Coffey won first-place news, Barb Doddy won third-place human interest, Lee Whitehead won first-place sports, first-place human-interest and best of show, and Joe Rowling won second-place news.

First-place Human Interest and Best of Show by Lee Whitehead

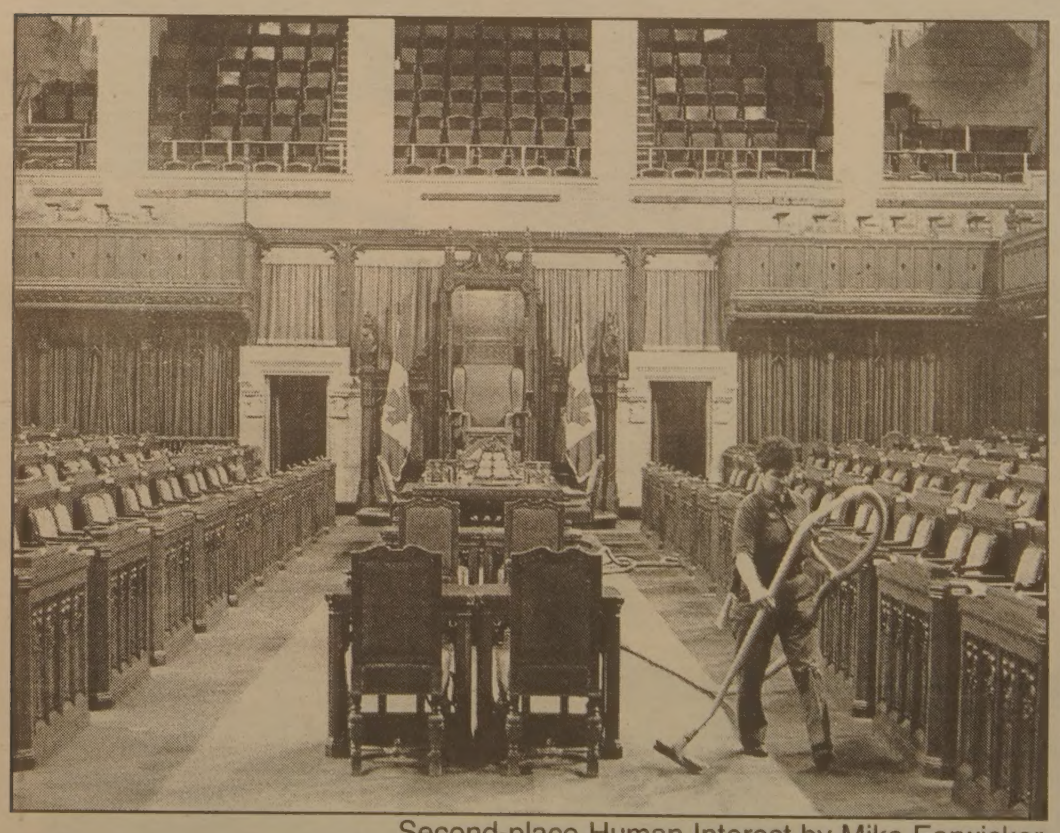
Prizes for the sixth annual Journalism-Print program "Best of Year 2" photography competition were provided by the following donors: Kodak Canada Inc., Bell Arte Camera, Hamilton, Ilford Anitec, Zehr's, Welland, Frederick's Photography, St. Catharines, the Niagara College Journalism-Print program and Leo Tiberi, director of the college's Communication and Information Technology Division.

The winners of the sixth annual Journalism-Print program "Best of Year 2" photography competition were recently selected by members of the Journalism-Print advisory committee.

The committee included Gary Manning, managing editor of the *Welland Tribune* and chairman of the advisory committee, Jim Middleton, former managing editor of the *Welland Tribune*, Doug Firby, managing editor of the *St. Catharines Standard*, Paul Paterson, editor of the magazine *What's Up Kids?*, and Henry Zwolak, publisher of *Home and Office Computing* in Niagara Falls.

Faculty of the Journalism-Print program did not participate in the judging.

# Human Interest



Second-place Human Interest by Mike Earwicker

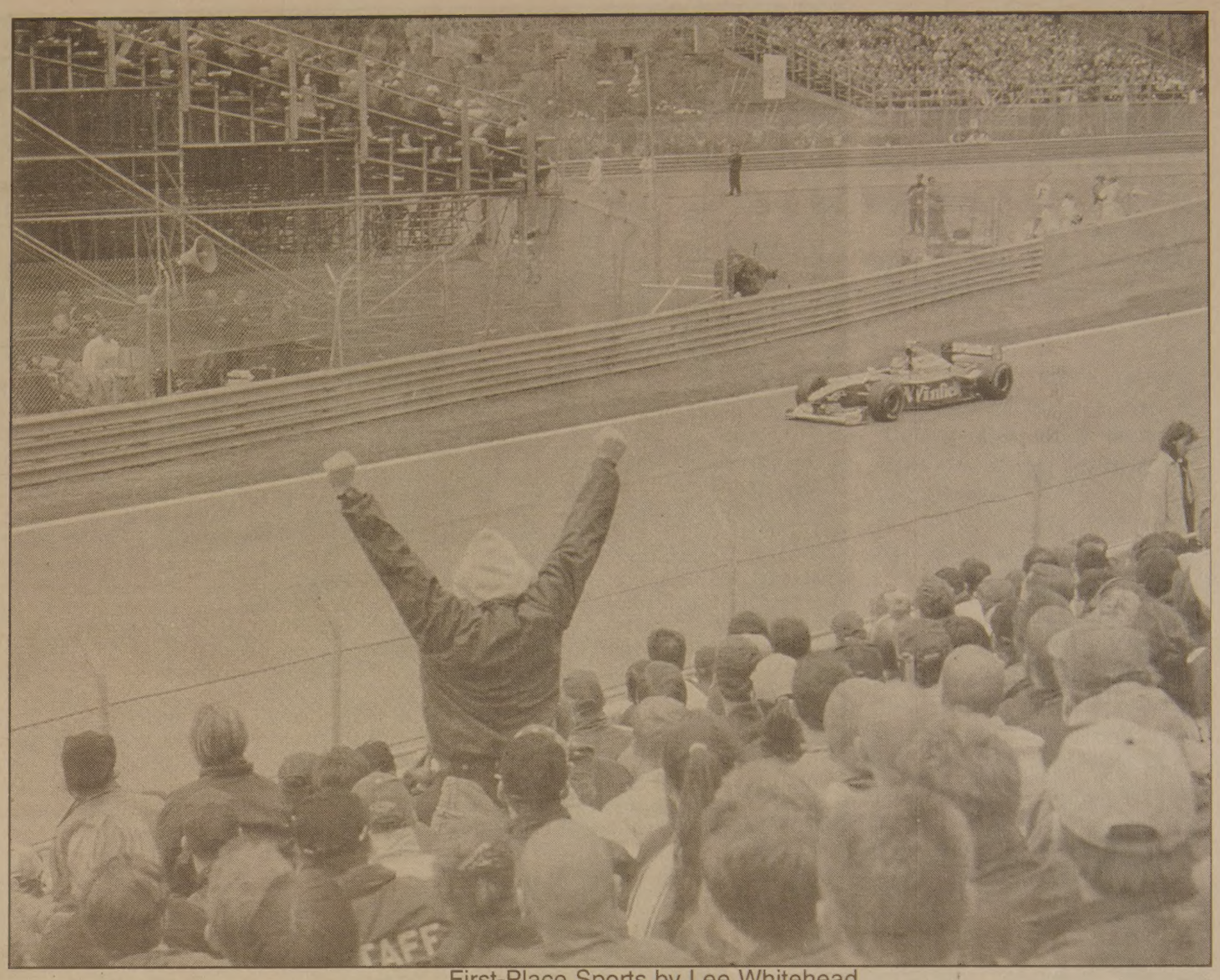
Third-place Human Interest by Barb Doddy

First-place News by Sean Coffey

Second-place News by Joe Rowling

# News

Third-place News by Angela Pickering



First-Place Sports by Lee Whitehead

Second-place Sports by Aaron Beaudoin

# Sports

Third-place Sports by Dave Olsen

# Eye On Niagara

# After Hours getting ready for facelift

By MARK GARRETT
Staff Writer

A good manager, a hard-working staff and helpful students—put them together and you have the After Hours campus pub.

David Rapelje, 30, of Welland, manages and oversees the After Hours pub at Niagara College's Welland campus and the Glendale campus pub in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"It's a good job and it's a lot of fun," says Rapelje.

The pubs are owned by the Student Administrative Council (SAC) and the students. Rapelje has three assistants to help him run the pubs, one in Niagara-on-the-Lake and two in Welland.

Producing entertainment on campus is one highlight he likes, says Rapelje, adding working with other people is another highlight. "I like working with my students. It keeps me young."

Rapelje is not new to the college. He has been here seven years. He graduated from the college in the Law and Security Administration (LASA) program, taught a class in the LASA program, worked as a counsellor for the college and worked with the vice-president of student life doing "special" assignments.

Rapelje has been working as After Hours' manager for five years.

Business at the pub is "about the same" as last year, he says.

"The one thing I have seen is with the new campus opening in Niagara-on-the-Lake, our daytime activity is a little bit lighter than last year."

Pub night on Thursdays, which is the busiest night, and comedy night on Wednesdays have around the same attendance compared with last year.

"I think the thing we've seen this year and the thing we'll see continually in the future is, the more cutbacks the students face and higher tuition they're faced to pay means they have less money to go out and socialize."

After Hours has produced more shows and more free entertainment than last year.

*'It's a good job and it's lots of fun.'*

*— David Rapelje*

Rapelje says "it isn't very hard to find acts." He's been working in the event management business "on and off" for the last 10 years. "It's time-consuming trying to figure out routing for bands, but once the show is booked it's just a matter of small details."

Big Sugar was the "biggest" act this year at After Hours with an attendance of "around 300 plus."

Aside from bands, Rapelje says the beach pub night was the "biggest" night. September and October are the busiest parts of the year. "Those two months make our year actually, and then it's a progressive downhill slide from there because students start to run out of money."

The Glendale campus got off to a "slow" start. It missed the two busiest months, September and October, but "as the student population grows, so will the awareness of the pub."

There aren't "very many problems" at the pub, but "we get the odd occasion of guys bumping into each other and then all of a sudden it's a major incident in their minds," says Rapelje, adding but "luckily" After Hours has a "good" team of security personnel who will "intervene."

The After Hours operation will be managed the same next year as it was in previous years. "We are going to continue to do what we think we do well,"says Rapelje.

At the end of next year, After Hours will be getting a face-lift. "We will be working with a design consultant to come up with a complete new look for the Student Centre in Welland."

Thirty-five to 40 students worked in total at the Welland campus and Glendale campus at the beginning of the year, but "they realized they didn't like it and quit. The hours are hard for some and others don't like cleaning up other people's vomit," says Rapelje.

The pub ended up with one-quarter of those students. "We've had students we have had for three years," says Rapelje, adding they have a student supervisor who is going into his third year and he is "excellent."

The After Hours pub is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Wednesday nights it's open for live comedy night from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., and Thursday nights it's open for pub night from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

# Keep on pubbin'

## *Some students say the pub is losing its edge*

By KYM CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

Some Niagara College students at the Welland campus say they are getting bored with the After Hours Pub on Thursday night pub night.

Tahra Bartley, 20, of Blind River, says although she frequents the establishment often, she is getting bored with the same, routine pub night. "I've been to almost every pub night this year," says Bartley, "I just go to dance."

Bartley says she has noticed a significant decrease in the number of people who regularly attend pub night. "I probably wouldn't go as often either if I had a car," says Bartley. "There's not much else to do in Welland on a Thursday night."

Bartley says although she is getting bored with the pub, she will continue to attend Thursday's pub nights. "It's kind of a tradition more than anything else."

Sarah Mole, 20, of Owen Sound, also frequents the pub regularly. "It's something to do," says Mole. " (It's) better than nothing, right?"

Mole says although she enjoys herself most of the time, she too has noticed a decrease in patronage at the pub. "Up until about 11 p.m., there's nobody. After 11 p.m. you usually get a good idea of what kind of a night it's going to be."

Mole says she has heard several people complain about the music that gets regular play at the pub. "It does get a bit repetitive," says Mole."Maybe if they mixed up the music a little and played a larger variety, things would pick up a bit."

Former After Hours employee Brian Ogawa, 22, of Hamilton, shares Mole's opinion about the music at the pub.

"The style of music being played somewhere usually indicates the type of crowd that will show up," says Ogawa. "If you go to a country bar, you know the type of crowd and music that will be there."

Ogawa says he rarely goes to the pub, unless there is a special event or guest such as Tony Lee or the Torture King. He says every pub night is the same. "It's always the same people and the same bad music. I'm boycotting the pub," says Ogawa.

*'The style of music being played usually indicates the type of crowd that will show up.'*

*— Brian Ogawa*

Unlike Bartley and Mole, Ogawa has the option of going elsewhere on Thursday nights. Ogawa has a car. "I figure I'll save myself the hassle and just go somewhere better."

Courtney Stoppard, 20, of Hanover, Ont., says she is an occasional "pubber."

Although Stoppard says she enjoys herself when she does go, she doesn't usually attend unless there is some event or theme.

"Halloween and the Beach Pub were packed. I've noticed that theme nights are a lot busier than regular pub nights.

"My suggestion to the pub is have more theme nights and really cheap beer. That's what draws in the crowds," says Stoppard.

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# Student Jobs

# Niagara students take on part-time jobs

By DESLYN DIARAM
Staff Writer

Two full-time Niagara College students recently talked about why they chose to work part-time jobs.

Kevin Perquin, 21, of Brampton, Ont., is a second-year Broadcasting — Radio, Television and Film program student at the college's Welland campus.

Perquin works as a social convener at the Niagara College at the campus residence, where he lives while attending school.

Perquin said he enjoys his job as a social director because he gets to organize and attend social activities. "I also help out students in the residence who may be having a difficult time and need a hand."

He said some of the demands of his job are sometimes hard to separate. "Time, emotional strain, stress, and being able to differentiate between personal time and professional time are the biggest demands of my job."

Perquin said time management is the biggest problem for him. "Trying to maintain a personal life while dealing with both your job and school gets really tough sometimes."

He said he has mixed reasons for choosing to work while going to school. "I guess it's a little bit of everything—personal, financial—and I enjoy it."

He said the money helps out his social life. "I'm a sociable guy, so I like to have a good time, but I like being able to help others out as well."

He said he would choose not to work a part-time job if he didn't have financial reasons. "My financial situation becomes less of a burden. It never really goes away completely, but having a job helps to relieve some of the stress that builds up."

Perquin said he has personal motivations that help him deal with "juggling" a job and school. "For me it's the personal gratification to know I can handle all of it and still come out on top. It just makes me all the more stronger in life."

He said knowing he can take on a challenge and win makes him "feel great."

Perquin said his first priority is school. "I care a lot if my grades suffer. School is my first priority, so I try to put it in front of everything else. Sometimes it doesn't always work that way."

He said his grades do suffer because he "can't find the time to do everything." He said he has a hard time "staying on track . . . There are only so many hours in a day, and when you have people who are either wanting to talk to you or needing you for something, it's hard to keep focused on what you are here for: school."

Perquin said because he is the social director in residence he has a hard time getting away from his job. "It's really hard sometimes, since everywhere you go you know someone, and when you work with a lot of them it's hard to escape your job."

Perquin said he doesn't have a problem with scheduling conflicts because his bosses are "totally great. They try to avoid conflict with work and school by asking me when I can work during the week, and they give me a lot of freedom like that."

He said the stress of his job isn't anything he "can't handle."

Perquin said he has his ways of "venting" his frustrations after a long day. "I tend to go out and have a good time with friends, or I use the punching bag that I have."

Perquin said the support of his friends and co-workers helps him deal with stress.

He said he wouldn't recommend working a part-time job while going to school. "I wouldn't recommend doing it unless you are sure it won't affect your school. It's not worth it," Perquin said.

Amanda Sequin, 19, of Niagara Falls, is a first-year Human Relations program student. She works at Thriftys Clothing and the Cineplex Odeon, both at 7555 Montrose Rd., in the Niagara Square Mall in Niagara Falls.

Sequin said she enjoys working at the movie theatre, but doesn't like working at Thriftys. "I have my apprentice license at the movie theatre to be a projectionist, but I chose not to continue with it. I don't like customer service anymore. The people drive me insane."

She said the hardest demand of her job is she must have patience. "I have to be happy all the time. I can't be bummed out, because I am around people all the time."

She said she has mixed concerns about working and going to school. "There's not enough time to do anything, not just work and school, but to have a social life too." Sequin said she chooses to work because of financial reasons. "I have to pay my bills."

Sequin said she has alternative reasons for working. "I have to help out my mom. She would kick my ass if I ever screwed up.

"I don't have to ask my parents for money all the time and it makes me feel independent to work."

She said her financial situation has its "good times and bad. It bothers me that my friends are so carefree about asking their parents for money. I couldn't do that."

She said her personal motivation for working hard is her mother. "I don't want to let her down. She is my motivation for doing well in school and keeping both my jobs."

She said the "feeling" of being independent also motivates her. "You can't just have money handed to you. You need a sense of responsibility in your life, and working is it for me."

She said she deals with the stress of going to school and working by talking to her roommate for support. "There's been situations when things are just too much, but I take a few days off just to get myself organized and get back into a routine."

She said her family and friends are "very" understanding and listen to her "vent on bad days."

Sequin said she would recommend working a part-time job and going to school. "It gives you a sense of responsibility, and if you can handle the stress of a job and school, you can handle anything," Sequin said.

Sequin said she would have more time to study if she weren't working. "My grades aren't that bad, but I am sure if I didn't have to work I would have more time to study."

She said she manages the time she has by using a day planner. "I have a day planner that I live by. If I ever lost it I would go crazy. It's my lifeline."

Sequin said her bosses understand when she has scheduling conflicts with school. "My managers usually ask me if I want to work, and they don't usually schedule me on days when I have classes."

She said she takes the day off before a test so she can have time to study.

# Balancing books, jobs

By SHANNON MASTALER
Staff Writer

Many students attending Niagara College have part-time jobs.

Cathy Top, 20, of Belleville, Ont., is taking the Travel and Tourism program at Niagara's Maid of the Mist campus in Niagara Falls. She says she has to work in order to put herself through school. "I wouldn't be here if I didn't work. I wouldn't be able to afford my car, and I wouldn't be able to afford living in residence."

Top says she works three or four days a week. "It is very tiring, but I have to do it." She says being tired is her main problem. "I'm always tired when I come home from work, so I don't want to study. Then the next day I almost fall asleep at school."

Top says being run down is a problem, and her job affects her school a little. "The only time my school work suffers is when my assignments pile up, and I have to go to work that night or the next day."

Top says she sometimes doesn't get home until 2 a.m. "That is too much, especially when I have to get up and do my long day all over again. I'm always exhausted."

She says her social life has been affected by working at Kelsey's. "When I do get a weekend off, I don't always want to go out because I am so tired."

Top says when all her friends from residence go out she is working or really run down. "It sucks that I don't get to go out a lot because I am in my college years."

Top says working gets stressful, but she thinks it's a good experience for her in the long run. "Working and going to school makes me cautious about money. It makes me realize how much things really cost."

Scott MacNeil, 21, of Niagara Falls, is taking the Hotel and Restaurant Management program at the college's Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls. MacNiel says he is working at Kelsey's to pay for tuition, rent and other bills. "I wouldn't be able to afford my house if I didn't work."

MacNeil says his hours are usually good at Kelsey's. "Some weeks are tough because I can't pick and choose my hours, but most of the time it works OK.

"I don't find my course hard, so that's really convenient. I think work would affect my grades a lot more if I did."

MacNeil says his grades are good. "Last time I went to school and worked at the same time, I didn't do very well. I think you have to have the aspiration to do both in order to succeed."

He says his only "big" problem with working and going to school is when he has morning classes. "If I work late the night before, I either don't go to classes at all, or I practically sleep through them."

MacNeil says his social life has been affected by work more than his academic life. "I have an OK social life, but I would like to be able to go out more like my friends who don't work do.

"I will probably be working at Kelsey's next year. I am going to have to if I want to continue paying for college."

MacNeil says his job can be aggravating, but he doesn't mind it. "Working while you're in school gives you a sense of independence, and a taste of responsibility."

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# Eye On Niagara

# New Glendale campus a success

## *Glendale a welcome change for experienced students*

**By MARTIN McQUAIG**
**Staff Writer**

Experienced Niagara College students say they are enjoying their first year at the new Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"The scenery is a lot nicer and there are more people around," says Dave Cairns, 23, of St. Catharines. Cairns, in his second year of the Environmental Health and Safety Co-ordinator (Co-op) program, spent his first year at the college's St. Catharines Wellandvale campus.

"Wellandvale was an old factory," he says. "I think only one of their computers had the Internet. At the new campus I can get on it anywhere."

Cairns says because there are many more students at the new campus, it's easier for students who live in St. Catharines to share driving duties.

He says he appreciates that the college is in a quieter area, but wishes there were more places close to the school to go for lunch.

Anthony Marotta, 22, of St. Catharines, spent his first two years at Niagara's Welland campus.

"You don't get all depressed," he says of the Glendale campus. "Welland was dark and dungeony."

Marotta, a third-year student in the Business Administration—Marketing (Co-op) program says he also enjoyed his first year at the new campus.

"I don't need to leave the main building to look for buildings I can't even see the names of, like Hennepin Hall."

He adds because everything at the Glendale campus is in the same building, he doesn't have to "freeze for 10 minutes walking to the cafeteria."

Marotta says he likes the technological improvements of the new campus. He says lectures are more interesting because everything is done on Power Point software so they don't need overheads anymore.

"There are smaller computer labs, so they're nice and quiet," he adds, saying computer labs in Welland were too noisy and hard to work in.

The new on-campus pub, Alexander Davidson's, was also a welcome change for some former Welland campus students.

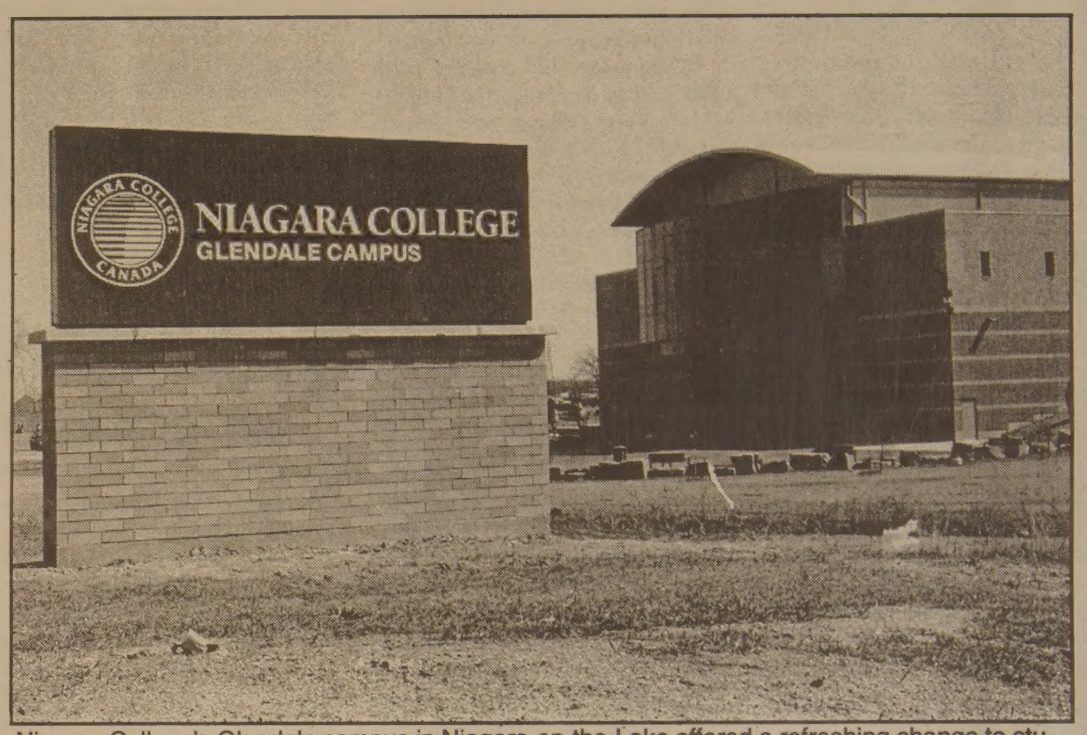
"It's well lit and you don't have to go outside to get there," says Dan Bernard, 21, of St. Catharines. "There's a wall of windows facing the courtyard, so it allows light in," he adds about the non-smoking pub.

Bernard, a third-year student in the Business Administration — Human Resources (Co-op) program says he is saving a lot of money on gas this year and that he likes that the school is right off the Queen Elizabeth Highway so it is easy to get to.

He says the new no-tolerance policy on food and drink in the classrooms is good but has its drawbacks. He says even though the new school is a lot cleaner than the Welland campus, the new Tim Hortons shop in the school is never busy because people don't have time to drink a coffee between classes.

While they say they enjoyed their first year at the Glendale campus, the students agreed it didn't make up for tuition increases in recent years.

"My co-op fees were $900 alone in my second year," says Bernard.




Niagara College's Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake offered a refreshing change to students who came from other Niagara campuses.

**Photo by Martin McQuaig**

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# Sports

# Sports banquet honours Niagara's best

**Continued from Page 1**

Collins said she thinks everyone should make the step to be a part of a team. "The lessons I've learnt, such as the highs and lows of sports, have helped me grow as a person."

Haldon Hutchinson, 21, of Brampton, was named male Freshmen Athlete of the Year.

"I was really surprised to win this award. I thought one of my teammates was going to win."

***'I didn't even know there was such an award.' —Melissa Hallborg***

Hutchinson is in his first year of the Business Administration — Accounting program. "One day I would like to open up a marketing firm."

Hutchinson averaged 14.3 points a game for the men's basketball team. "I'm looking forward to next year. We have nine rookies coming back with only one player leaving."

Hutchinson said one day he'd like to play basketball in Europe.

"This year I learned how to carry myself on and off the court. I had never been interviewed before so this year was something new."

Hutchinson said this was the "best team" he's been on. "I've never developed friendships so quickly, both on and off the court, as this year."

Melissa Hallborg, 19, of Welland, said she was surprised to receive the Female Freshmen Athlete of the Year. "I didn't even know there was such an award."

Hallborg played for the women's basketball team. "Next year we will definitely make the playoffs. We will have more experienced players and coaches."

Hallborg is enrolled in the Business-Accounting program.

She said she's coaching an elementary school basketball team. "I've really enjoyed coaching and I see it as a part of my future."

Sarkis thanked M.T. Bellies, DeSmit Building, I.D.A. Pharmacy and Claire's Delivery for scholarship contributions. He said by offering scholarships "it has helped make our teams more competitive."

***'This year I learned how to carry myself on and off the court.' — Haldon Hutchinson***

The other most valuable player awards went to the following: Mason Woodruff, rugby; Frank Grsic, golf; Davis Salter, curling; Shane McKenzie, touch football; Andrea Flindall, women's basketball; Jennifer Carpenter, women's volleyball; Felice Taddeo, men's indoor soccer; Jacquie Malley, women's indoor soccer; and David Caron, badminton.

In a related matter, Lee Whitehead, 23, of Delhi, Ont., a second-year Journalism-Print program student, received a plaque for his coverage of college sports for the *Niagara News* this past year.

Liana Collins (left) and Kirby Bentley hold up their athlete of the year trophies.

**Photo by Mark Garrett**

## *Sports camp coming to Niagara*

**By MIKE WENCEL**
**Staff Writer**

Hoop! Hoop! Hooray! Summer hoops are coming to Niagara College.

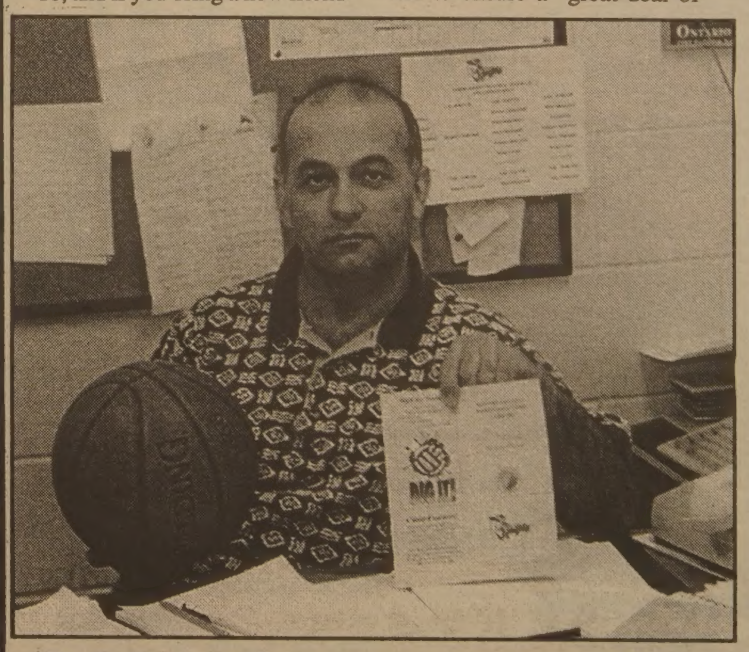
The Niagara Athletic Department is hosting, for the second time, a summer camp featuring an all-star coaching staff, consisting of college basketball coaches and players throughout the Niagara Region.

Ray Sarkis, camp director, says, "We hope to double the number of kids this year from 18, and if you bring a new friend it's $20 off the regular price."

The camp will focus on fundamental skills, team play and sportsmanship. Special attention will be devoted to players in defensive drills. Offensive skills will be tested in ball handling, shooting, rebounding and passing.

"After the camp is done each child will receive an evaluation on skills they need to improve on for the future," says Sarkis.

The camp offers an exceptional player/coach ratio of 10 to one to ensure a "great deal of individual attention" in all areas of play. Parents are encouraged to attend any session to observe how well their child is improving.



Ray Sarkis, camp director, promotes the summer basketball camp, which is being held at Niagara College from Aug. 16 to Aug. 20.

**Photo by Mike Wencel**

"We put on the program to promote Niagara basketball because the camp is a fund-raiser for the program," says Sarkis.

"We want the challenge of working with younger kids to help develop their skills."

The program will be offered to boys and girls ages seven through 13. Registration costs $100 a week, and $80 for a second family member. Fees include coaching, a T-shirt and a ball. The camp will be held in the gymnasium in the Mackenzie building at the Welland campus.

"We chose this age group of kids because there is a lot of other camps going on at that time for older athletes," says Sarkis. "We wanted to hold one for younger kids. Then we don't have to compete with other camps around the Niagara Region."

"I hope the kids have a lot of fun and meet some new friends during the camp."

The camp will be held Aug. 16 to Aug. 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis until all sessions are filled.

For more information contact Sarkis at (905) 735-2211, ext. 7538.

## Team creates memories

**By TRACEY ALLISON**
**Staff Writer**

Theresa Tamburro said playing for the Niagara College women's indoor soccer team was the "greatest part" of her college year.

"Playing on the soccer team was an excellent experience that created many great memories," said Tamburro, 18, of Ajax, Ont.

Tamburro said she has been playing soccer for 14 years.

She said she played for a team in Ajax and for three years on her high school team. She said she won the school's Junior Girls Soccer Award in 1996.

Tamburro said playing on the varsity team was a different experience. "This level of soccer is much more competitive than anywhere I've played before."

She said the women in this league have more "advanced skills" and play at a higher level of soccer. "These players are a step up from high school."

Tamburro said this is her first year on the team. "It was my love of the sport that made me try out for the team, and I wanted the competition and challenge of making the team."

Tamburro said at first she was "intimidated" because she was the youngest on the team. She said, eventually, the fear went away.

Paul Howie, of Niagara Falls, was the team's coach. "He was an amazing coach. He made you want to play and always made everyone feel equal," said Tamburro, adding he is knowledgeable of the sport and he "is always willing to take the time to practice on each individual's needs."

"The girls on the team really bonded."

She said one of the "greatest things" about being on the team was she met many new people and made good friends. "This team was great. Everyone was willing to work together and accept everyone is at different levels."

She said there was no conflict among the players, just "excellent teamwork."

The team only played in tournaments.

The first tournament, she said, was like a "practice run" and then over the next three tournaments there was a "great improvement" and everyone started working together as a team.

Tamburro said to make improvements, the team should have had more practices. "I understand that people have jobs and other things, but it would be a big improvement if the team met three times a week instead of only two."

She said if they played single games against other schools they would "get to know the teams better before tournaments, where you only have one chance."

Tamburro said playing on the team gave her confidence. "I don't feel intimidated any more to try out for Brock University's team when I'm there next year."

"It added a great memory to my first college year. I would definitely play for the team again."

# Peaks offers wide variety of climbs

By MATT HOLLEY
Staff Writer

Niagara Region offers indoor rock climbing for those wanting to reach the top.

Peaks Indoor Rock Climbing Club opened on Oct. 16, 1994. Andre Zeman, 33, started the business because he says there weren't any climbing facilities in Niagara.

Peaks offers about 70 different climbing routes, textured walls, cracks, overhangs, a climbing "cave" and ledging walls.

For beginners a two-hour safety course is mandatory. The course includes the basics of climbing, tying knots and belaying (a universal term for securing a climbing partner safely). After the course is completed, the student is allowed to climb until his or her endurance gives out or Peaks closes, as stated in its brochure.

For the intermediate to advanced climber, Peaks offers climbing workshops that cover rappelling and ascending. Peaks offers outdoor climbing trips to Rattlesnake Point Conservation Area near Milton, Ont.

Zeman says there isn't anywhere to climb outdoors in Niagara. "At one time you could climb in the Niagara Gorge, but there were too many accidents so it's not allowed now." Zeman says the only thing he can teach in the gorge is bouldering, which is practising basic handholds and footholds on small rocks.

Zeman says he has been climbing for 17 years. Zeman lived in the Czech Republic before he immigrated to Canada with his wife, Anne Lanthier, a Canadian who had been teaching English in the Czech Republic and is Zeman's business partner.

## *Rock climbing*

Zeman says once he was in Canada he worked many low-paying jobs and didn't like it. Zeman says he owed a construction business in the Czech Republic that handled work at high altitudes, such as refurbishing church steeples. Since Zeman was looking for full-time work, opening his own business seemed like a logical step.

"I wanted something to make me better than the average Canadian," says Zeman.

At the time of Peaks' conception, there weren't many rock climbing gyms in Ontario and none in Niagara, whereas rock climbing and rock climbing gyms have been successful in Europe for years.

"If you don't climb for a while, you'll lose your strength," Zeman says. Since he had spent years climbing, he said for him a rock climbing gym seemed the natural business to open.

Zeman says one of the major problems facing Peaks when it opened was advertising. It remains a problem still.

"Rock climbing clubs usually don't have a big budget for advertising, and rely more on word of mouth," Zeman says.

Jim Chernishenkl, 38, of St. Catharines, has been climbing for one year and says Peaks is a good gym.

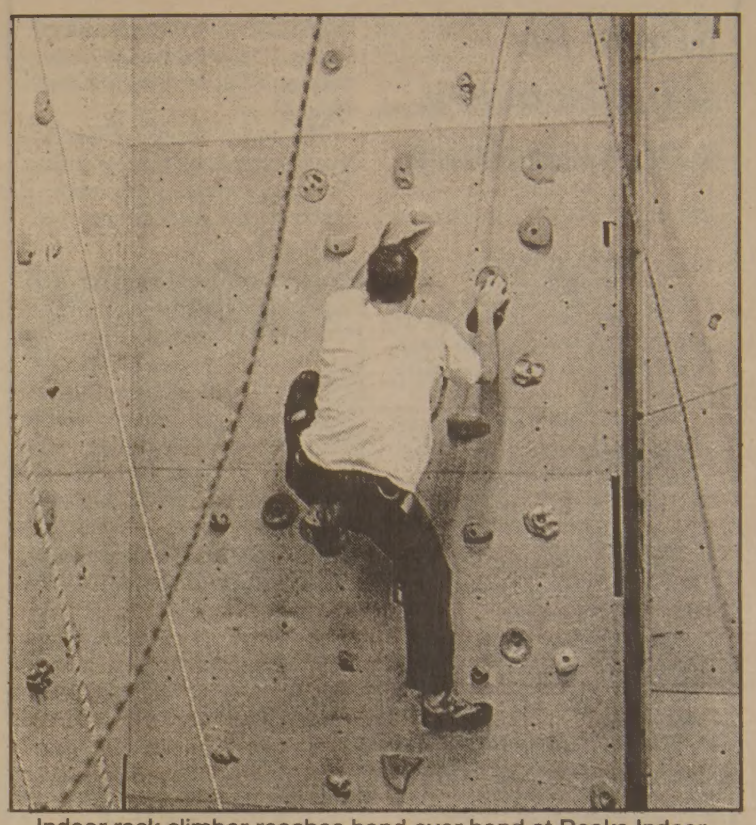
"It's a nice, friendly atmosphere. Andre makes it fun," says Chernishenkl.

Zeman has the proper requirements for teaching the skills involved in rock climbing, as do the instructors who are there part time.

Zeman says if any instructors are in the gym, even if they aren't working, and see someone doing something wrong, they'll get that person pointed in the right direction.

Peaks handles the equipment rental for those wishing to climb but who don't have the equipment to do so. Peaks rents and sells shoes (rubbered on the bottom for better traction), harnesses (to attach the rope to), and chalk bags filled with chalk (to keep hands dry).

For more information contact Peaks Indoor Rock Climbing Club at 905-988-5651 or visit them at 630 Welland Ave., in St. Catharines.



Indoor rock climber reaches hand over hand at Peaks Indoor Rock Climbing Club.

**Photo by Matt Holley**

# *Player trades in NHL*

By DARYL SMITH
Staff Writer

The trading deadline has come and gone.

It has a history of taking great teams and putting them over the top by adding just one or two players.

In 1994, the New York Rangers, coached by controversial Mike Keenan, added Stephane Matteau and Brian Noonan from the Chicago Blackhawks for Tony Amonte. Amonte has turned into a superstar but the Rangers went on to win the Stanley Cup.

There were 21 deals made in the National Hockey League (NHL) on March 23. The busiest of the teams was the Detroit Red Wings.

The Red Wings traded for Chris Chelios, Bill Ranford, Wendel Clark, and Ulf Samuelsson, but this is the reason the Red Wings will not win the Stanley Cup this year. If Detroit does not win the cup this season they could be in trouble giving up two first round draft picks including one of their best young defencemen, Anders Eriksson.

Detroit was always known as a team with great chemistry and balanced scoring, but adding four players to a team all at once makes it look disorganized and takes away the team's chance to win a third consecutive Stanley Cup.

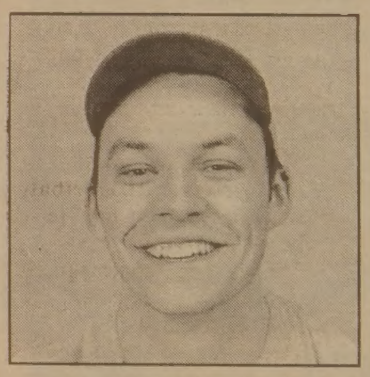
The big winner on deadline day was the Buffalo Sabres, who added Joe Juneau and Rhett Warrener. Juneau, who was instrumental in taking the Washington Capitals to the Stanley Cup finals in 1998, will help a team that needs scoring and leadership in the worst way.

Buffalo went to the semi-finals last year and should have beaten Washington, but it seemed Buffalo was surprised to be there, showing no heart and looking lost at times.

Warrener was thought to be an untouchable last year with the Florida Panthers, but how things change. Warrener was supposed to be part of a package to the Toronto Maple Leafs for Felix Potvin. He's known as a hardnosed defencemen with decent scoring skills.

I guess we won't see which team is the big winner until the end when they hoist the Stanley Cup overhead.

# Loyal players mean loyal fans



By MARTIN McQUAIG
Staff Writer

Where have all the sports fans gone? Certainly not to the stadiums.

With the National Basketball Association (NBA) season in full swing, and the baseball season just underway, many professional sports teams are wondering what they can do to bring back the fans.

After players' strikes in the 1990s crippled both the NBA and Major League Baseball, stadium attendance has been lower overall. Some fans blame this problem on rising ticket prices, some blame it on the convenience of televised games.

Many fans identify their lack of trust in professional athletes as the reason for refusing to attend major league sporting events. Lucrative free agent offers and decreasing player-to-team loyalty really hurt the fans. When a fan is loyal to a favourite club, the fan expects that the money put towards the players' salaries means something to them.

A solution to this problem can be found across the Atlantic Ocean.

In the United Kingdom, soccer, locally known as football, is popular for plenty of good reasons. Among them, fans' loyalty to their team comes well ahead of their loyalty to a player. If a player shows any disrespect to his club, he is forever blacklisted by the fans.

Players often celebrate goals by expressing thanks to the fans and kissing their jersey.

I can't remember how many times I've been at a Toronto Blue Jays game, and a player didn't even acknowledge the ovation he received for a homerun. It takes only a quick wave to the stands but makes fans feel far more appreciated.

Homerun kings Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa were the only bright points in an otherwise dull baseball season last year. In addition to chasing the major league homerun record, McGwire and Sosa took extra time to sign autographs during practice and to blow kisses to their fans after they got to the dugout.

Unfortunately, not every city has McGwire and Sosa. Many get stuck with Albert Belle, Dennis Rodman or, in the worst case, Roger Clemens.

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# Rave Reviews

## Heavy sounds

### *Music for self-discovery, soul searching*

**By SAM BAYLY**
**Staff Writer**

The Mayfield Four's debut album, **Fallout**, contains hard-edged music and deep, dark lyrics.

The four group members are from Spokane, Wash. Myles Kennedy is the lead guitarist and lead vocalist. Craig Johnson plays guitar, Marty Meisner plays bass, Zia Uddin is on drums and each of the three provide backing vocals.

In November they finished a Canadian tour, having visited Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal.

Kennedy composed all of the lyrics, except the song *Inner City Blues,* which is a Marvin Gaye song. His words evoke the hardships of lost love and of the search to find himself. On the band's Web site Kennedy says, "I've gone through a lot of tough personal things in the last few years." He adds, "The album is really therapeutic in that regard, helping me work through a lot of things. I've saved a lot in counselling bills working on this record."

The music, created primarily by Kennedy, is alternative rock. The heavy sounds produced by the band go well with Kennedy's voice. The song *12/31* is one

ballad that has been done very well. The musical background brings out the morbid words Kennedy sings describing his depression.

Overall, I enjoyed listening to this group. They have put together an excellent piece of work worthy of a listen. However, don't expect these songs to bring a smile to your face. This music should be left for your own times of self-discovery and soul searching.

Visit The Mayfield Four at www.themayfieldfour.com.

## Bounce to Harlem World

**By DESLYN DIARAM**
**Staff Writer**

MA$E's new album, **Harlem World,** makes you want to bounce.

Produced by superstars MA$E and Jermaine Dupri, this compilation of songs flows nicely out of any stereo.

**Harlem World** features other prize-winning artists such as NAS, Jermaine Dupri, Kelly Price and Nauty.

These additional artists help to give the album a mixture of sounds, but all the songs still have the same great quality.

The strong beats and smooth lyrics are easy on the ears and made me want to move. The rap varies from fast-paced to a slower sound, offering diversity.

The upbeat sound of the song *I really like it* will have your body wanting to move in no time.

All the lyrics on the album are clear and not overpowered by background beats, so it it easy to sing along with.

**Harlem World** is the type of CD you can listen to when you're cruising in your car or just chilling with your friends. The different introductions of each song give this CD a unique, fun sound.

Whether this CD is left on repeat all day, or whether you are replaying your favourite songs, this is one album that won't get on your nerves.

I am planning on taping this CD onto a cassette for the long car rides home.

## Kula Shaker new, different

### *New album flows well, better than first*

**By MARTIN MCQUAIG**
**Staff Writer**

In listening to Kula Shaker's 1996 debut, **K** (Columbia/Sony), one can understand how Ravi Shankar's performance didn't make the final cut of the Woodstock documentary.

Kula Shaker has come back with a far better eclectic mix of guitars and Indian horns on their sophomore release **Peasants, Pigs & Astronauts** (Columbia/Sony).

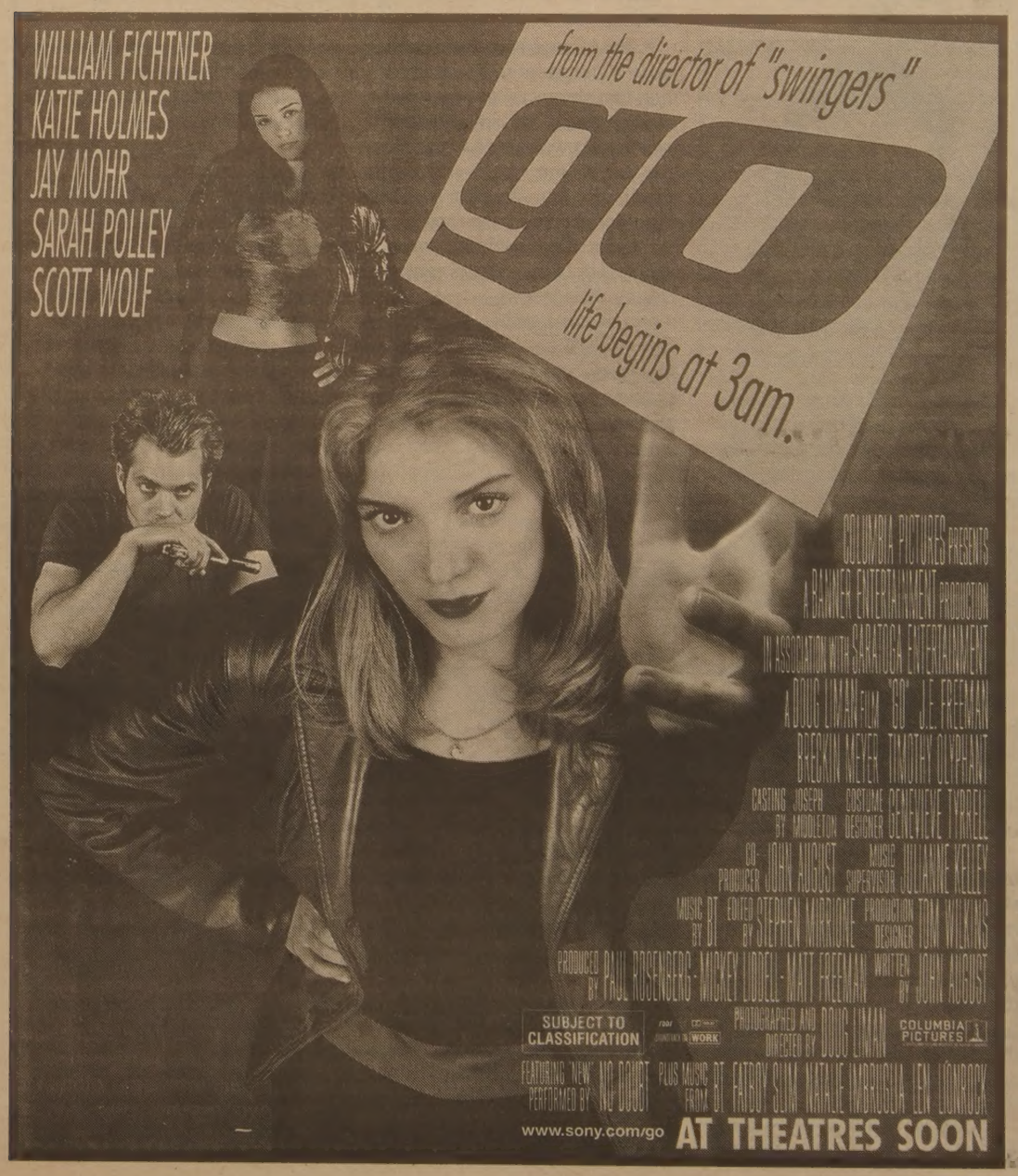
The album's first single, *Mystery Machine Gun*, is a multi-layered gem, indicative of the experimental style that Kula Shaker has embraced with such charm.

Although Kula Shaker is reluctant to produce an album full of radio-friendly singles, the stormy *Sound of Drums* and the soothing subtlety of *I'm Still Here* keep the album flowing well. The Hammond organs and harmonicas on the album are in keeping with the current British pop trend forged by the likes of Supergrass and Radiohead.

A balanced combination of Donovan, Santana and The Stone Roses, Kula Shaker tests the limits of creativity and marketability.

**Peasants, Pigs & Astronauts** is a venture from the mainstream in a rather boring age in music. It's well worth the time and money if you are ready for something new and different.

This one gets 3.5 of five stars.




## Lennon's deep emotions

**By MEGAN ROSS**
**Staff Writer**

*Day After Day* music can take one away.

*Day After Day* is the first song on Julian Lennon's new album, **Smile.**

Lennon hasn't released an album since 1991.

"If I was gonna write again I had to live again . . . I had to look deep inside myself and start again," Lennon says in his biography.

The CD is soft and relaxing, and lets you think about yourself. The songs seem to have deep meaning. Lennon has written each song in the style for which his father, John Lennon of The Beatles, was famous.

It's a CD you'd want to put on, then draw a nice relaxing bubble bath, close your eyes and listen to each word.

Lennon's voice may cary you away. It's easy to lose yourself in this type of music. You can feel all of Lennon's emotions coming through each song.

It's a reflection of every emotion I've ever been through love, hurt rejection, and the list goes on.

"I've spent a lot of time putting something together that means a lot to me. It feels like the first real Julian Lennon album," Lennon has been quoted as saying.

Produced by Lennon and Bob Rose, the CD is dedicated to the memory of Lennon's step-father Roberto Bassanini.

## Sit back, relax with Monica

**By MIKE WENCEL**
**Staff Writer**

Get ready to dance as Monica relaxes your mind in the album **The Boy is Mine.**

A soft beat makes you want to sit back and relax to hear Monica featuring the talent of Outcast and 112. The duet with Brandy makes you want to get up and dance.

The album features many hits, including *The Boy is Mine, The First Night, Angel of Mine,* and *Right Here Waiting.* Throughout the CD the message of love, relationships, and waiting for that special someone is created through Monica's lyrics.

My favourite song, *The Boy is Mine ,* featuring Brandy, probably is one of the best female rap duets ever produced in the rap industry. The song focuses on Brandy and Monica fighting over a guy throughout the song, and, of course, Monica wins.

Let the tunes of Monica set your mind free. It's a great CD to add to your collection. I give it a nine out of 10.

# Entertainment

# Using what they've learned in own business

## *They've been running their own business for five years*

By JAMIE WHITE
Staff Writer

Need a video done for a special event? Call The Video Guys.

Kevin Gibson, 22, and Marcus Krebs, 21, both of Niagara Falls, started their own video business. Gibson and Krebs, both in the Broadcasting—Radio, Television and Film program, have been running their business for five years.

It all started in high school, says Krebs, now in his second year at the college. Nancy Robinson, a youth co-ordinator at St. Andrew's Church in Niagara Falls, asked Gibson to do a video for her, says Krebs. He helped out and they've been doing videos ever since.

Making the videos involves filming and editing, which they do themselves.

"We decided to branch out and began charging to cover our costs," says Krebs.

The Video Guys have about $15,000 in equipment they work with, says Gibson, who is now finishing his third year at the college.

"We make a lot of profit but spend it on more equipment."

Krebs says they price their jobs on how much it will cost to make and by how much work is involved. Their prices are lower than their competitors', and they do the smaller jobs that the other companies won't do, says Krebs.

Customers seem to be pleased, says Gibson.

"We've had people get angry, but for the most part people enjoy what they get."

"The majority of the customers aren't completely happy with anything anybody does," says Krebs. "For the weddings, people just want it taped."

The business, formerly based in the basement of the church, had to be moved to Krebs' house because it was "bad for the equipment."

They were officially registered with the government as a business in February 1997, so they could advertise.

*'It's good to be able to do something I enjoy and am good at.' — Marcus Krebs*

The name was chosen by their customers.

"We were doing videos for the church and everyone kept calling us 'the video guys.' It just stuck," says Gibson.

The pair teamed up with J.J. Booth, a teacher's assistant at the college, Corey Kennedy, a student in their program, and Wendy Hradsky, a student from Brock University in St. Catharines who helps out in filming and editing.

The group services Niagara Falls, doing weddings, corporate and small business videos and almost anything else customers might request.

They advertise through bridal shows, in newspapers, in the phone book, in restaurants and on the Internet with their new Web site at www.thevideoguys.com.

"I enjoy it," says Krebs. "I've never had a job I've liked. It's good to be able to do something I enjoy and am good at."

The Video Guys are experiencing a slow period now but that will change in the summer, says Gibson. "I'm not all that crazy about being so busy. Sometimes the quality of the business fails, and it gets tedious."

He says he finds school, work and the business sometimes hard to cope with.

The Video Guys say they'd like to continue the business in the future, but are unsure whether they will.

"It's unpredictable right now. I don't think it will ever completely diminish."

Gibson says, "We plan on continuing it, but it is unknown how long it will last. Right now we're enjoying it."

They've talked about adding 3-D animation and special effects to the business, says Gibson.

Asked the best part of having their own business, Krebs says, "I like to go around and say I have my own business."

If anyone is interested in having a video done by The Video Guys, call (905) 374-4129.

# Cinderella story touched with realism

By JENNIFER MAGO
Staff Writer

Fairy tales are often touching, however hard to believe. *Ever After* is a Cinderella story touched with realism. For a romantic it's the perfect movie.

Drew Barrymore plays the role of Danielle, a young girl who loses her father. She is forced by her stepmother to become a servant in her own home.

While venturing into town as a courtier to rescue a fellow servant, she meets her prince. He's immediately fascinated by her passion. When he asks her name she gives him the name of her deceased mother. They meet again, by coincidence. Their love for each other begins to grow.

Danielle's stepmother discovers Danielle is winning the love of the Prince. In anger she encourages her real daughter to continue scheming for his love.

Danielle is locked up on the night of the ball by her stepmother.

*The script is intelligently written and costume designs are beautiful.*

Danielle's friend, van Gogh, sneaks into the ball to find da Vinci, who comes to her rescue.

After reaching the ball her stepmother reveals her as a commoner in front of the prince and all his guests.

After the prince storms off, Danielle runs home only to wake up the next morning to find her stepmother has sold her to her rival.

The prince soon realizes his mistake and comes to rescue her, only to find she had saved herself. They marry. The stepmother gets the revenge she deserves.

The movie is a heart-warming tale of love and laughter. It takes place in the 16th century and the set is magnificent. The actors evoke the emotions they are reaching for. The script is intelligently written and costume designs are beautiful. This is a five-star movie. I give it 10 out of 10.

## NOTICE

**1999 Election For Internal Governors**

The election will take place April 12, 13 & 14, 1999. Voting hours are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the locations shown below, as well as, between the hours of 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. in the Continuing Education office in Hennepin Hall (H-21) on the Welland Campus and the Continuing Education office (W-110) at the Glendale Campus.

Welland Campus - SE104, H21 H3
Maid of the Mist Centre, Niagara Falls
Glendale Campus - W211, E201, W110

# Students get taste of live television

By SHANE GATRELL
Staff Writer

Lights, camera, action . . . Niagara College students are getting a taste of live television.

For second-year Broadcasting—Radio, Television, and Film (BRTF) program students, it's a chance to put on their own television show as a learning tool for the future.

Harry Tye, 21, of Niagara Falls, said it has been a lot of hard work. "It has been tough, but it has also been a great experience."

The television show is called *Inside Niagara* and it covers news and sports from Niagara Falls and surrounding areas, as well as news from all three Niagara College campuses in Welland, Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The creator of the show is Tom Pagonis, a teacher in the BRTF program.

"He looks out for us and is a fun and professional leader," said Tye, adding Pagonis prepares the students "very well," but when show time comes he leaves the students alone and watches from his office.

The television show airs live from the Welland campus studio two, which was designed by many of the second-year BRTF students.

"It is a very well-rounded program. We get everything," said Tye.

Every week the students switch positions. "It is a good idea. Everyone gets a chance to move from cameraman, to producer, to sound person," said Tye.

The students are divided into two groups, the behind-the-scenes crew and the talent crew, the people viewers see in front of the camera.

It is a "real life show" that teaches the students how television works, said Tye. "We all take it very seriously and we are loving it."

*Inside Niagara* airs live Thursdays at noon and is replayed later that night.

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# Eye On Niagara

# College studies hard work, no matter who you are

## *A student, teacher or graduate*

**By JENNIFER MAGO**
**Staff Writer**

College isn't just about meeting new people and going to parties. Sometimes it's about research, assignments and marking papers.

Sarah Drabble, 23, of Welland, is a student in the one-year Ecosystem Restoration (Post-graduate) program. She is an honours student with an 85 per cent academic average who says she "enjoys" her course.

"It's giving me practical experience I didn't get at university."

Drabble said she does an extra six hours of work out of class for her placement and about eight extra hours for research, presentations and assignments. Drabble said she thinks her teachers are "awesome."

"They're easy to talk to and easy to get along with."

Drabble said she thinks the college itself is "good."

"I tend to compare it to university. College is more structured, with more due dates. You're always working on something."

Brian Hill, 29, of Dunnville, graduated at the top of his class with a 92 per cent average from Niagara College in 1994. He took Business-Sales, a two-year program, at the Welland campus.

During his program he did advertising at *The Tribune* in Welland, for his placement. Hill said he "loved" his classes, and the teachers were "great."

"The classes were productive and the teachers were approachable."

Hill said the assignments were business oriented.

"You didn't wonder why you were doing it."

Hill said he thought the college was "great" because of the teachers and the placement being a "great experience."

After college, Hill got a job at Future Shop as a customer service representative, which paid minimum wage plus commission. Two months later he was promoted to sales in audio. Hill said he did "very well" on commission, making $1,300 a month.

"I picked Business-Sales basically because I like to talk a lot and I don't have to push a lot of buttons, but mostly because I'm a people person."

Paul Dayboll, of Port Colborne, is a teacher at Niagara College, at the Welland campus. He teaches 17 hours a week during this term and will be teaching seven hours a week in the spring term. He teaches typesetting and Macintosh computer basics for Journalism-Print program students, HTML programming for the Internet to post-graduate Interactive Multi-Media program students, and basic design skills and desktop publishing to post-graduate Public Relations program students. Dayboll said he teaches about 130 students this term.

"To mark I have to actually look at each piece and look at the design to find all the little mistakes."

He is going into his third year of teaching at the college, but has been around the college for about five or six years helping to design the computer lab and helping to move the Journalism-Print department into electronic pagination.

Dayboll said he "really enjoys" teaching.

"I find teaching really fun. I like the students, and I also like that my life changes every 15 weeks."

# Zombie drives crowd crazy

**By MEGAN ROSS**
**Staff Writer**

It was a multi-aged crowd from black-garbed teenagers to 40-year-olds that packed Hamilton's Copps Coliseum March 15 to hear Korn and Rob Zombie.

The opening band was Videodrone. The lead singer seemed to be doing some interesting moves that could have been dancing, but it looked more as if he had a snake in his pants.

The crowd went wild when the guitar player from Korn, Fieldly, came out and did a rap song with Videodrone. That was the most applause the band got.

The crowd went crazy when Rob Zombie hit the stage. His set was outstanding. It looked like a piece of hell. There were three video screens on which were shown little clips dealing with each song. Two women also danced on opposite ends of the stage.

The light show was marvelous, along with the shooting flames that came out from the stage. The heat from the flames was felt throughout the auditorium.

The crowd roared when Korn hit the stage. Their set was a jail with teenagers behind the bars.

Korn's fans were breathless, from a girl just screaming from shock and another one practically becoming one with the music. All were standing, banging their heads to the music and getting the most for their money.

At the front, in the pit, a few people started body surfing, but that didn't last long. They were too interested in hearing the band play all their favourite songs.

The concert was fun and exciting, even for a person who doesn't listen to their music and only went because her boyfriend had tickets.

# *Original Sabbath still electrifying*

**By DARYL SMITH**
**Staff Writer**

The Masters of Misery are back and they're good.

Black Sabbath performed a sold-out show at the SkyDome Skytent on Feb. 9, electrifying the crowd with a two-hour set.

All the original members were there including lead vocalist Ozzy Osbourne, lead guitarist Tony Iommi, bass guitarist Geezer Butler and drummer Bill Ward.

Deftones and Pantera opened for Sabbath, but you could tell all the fans were there to see the band that started the heavy metal craze of the 1980s.

The last time Sabbath performed in Canada was 20 years ago in 1978 to support their Never Say Die Tour.

The concert started with a video show on the big screen behind the stage recalling memories of Sabbath. Osbourne rose up from the stage as if by magic, and started the set off with one of the most popular songs, *War Pigs*.

The crowd rose to its feet giving the deserving men a 20-minute standing ovation.

Sabbath went on for two full hours without stopping and played every song perfectly. These included their greatest songs *Snowblind, Fairies Wear Boots, Iron Man, Sabbath Bloody Sabbath*, and, of course, *Paranoid*.

Some signs were evident the men have started to age, especially when Osbourne and Ward pretty much looked like they were dead at the end of the set.

Black Sabbath proved nobody can put on a show like them, not in the 1970s and still not in the 1990s.

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Submissions may be included in a book publication slated for November 1999 launch at Canadian Chapters bookstores. The national winner receives $10,000 and a one-year paid internship at Magna International Inc., valued at $36,000. Fifty semi-finalists receive $500 with 10 regional winners receiving $10,000 and a four-month paid summer internship, valued at $12,000, at Magna.

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# Eye On Niagara

## Take advantage of college's counselling

By SAM BAYLY
Staff Writer

If you've got a problem, any problem, Niagara College's Counselling Office can help.

Counselling services are available weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This includes the summer season.

At the Welland campus, two counsellors work in the office at one time. Erik Madsen works in the office all week, while Jocelyne Briggs and Donna Putman switch from Welland to the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls. Briggs is at Welland on Mondays and Tuesdays while Putman works there from Wednesdays to Fridays. Counsellors Georgina Tibbs and Wilma Puttee work at the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Appointments for drop-ins are available all day. One counsellor sees students in the morning while the other sees them in the afternoon.

Irma Cain, the Welland counselling office's secretary, said she suggests to students that "they should book appointments, by all means."

She said sometimes drop-ins aren't able to be taken until the next day because of how busy the office gets. If the situation is urgent, counsellors will drop what they are doing to help the student, she added. "If it is an emergency, they (students) know someone is here."

Counsellors are able to discuss many topics with students. These include career planning, budgeting, stress management and self-exploration.

Madsen said counsellors can help students with a "wide-range of issues — personal relationships, to suicides and grief counselling."

Madsen, 46, of Welland, is a graduate of Niagara University in Niagara Falls, N.Y., with a master's degree in science and education. He specialized in school counselling. He received his degree in May last year, but has worked in the college for 22 years.

The counselling centre, he said, is "a safe environment to discuss concerns." He added all discussions are "confidential." Students sign a confidentiality statement before speaking to a counsellor.

*'Don't let small problems become big ones. We're here to listen. We're here to help.' — Erik Madsen*

"Don't let small problems become big ones," Madsen said. "We're here to listen. We're here to help."

Contact the counselling centre at these numbers: from Welland and St. Catharines, call 735-2211; from Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake, call 641-2252; from Fort Erie, Ridgeway and Stevensville, call 374-7454; from Grimsby and West Lincoln (Beamsville), call 563-3254.

Use these extensions to reach the counselling centre: Glendale, ext. 4409; Maid of the Mist and Welland, ext. 7780.


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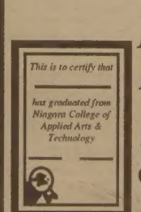

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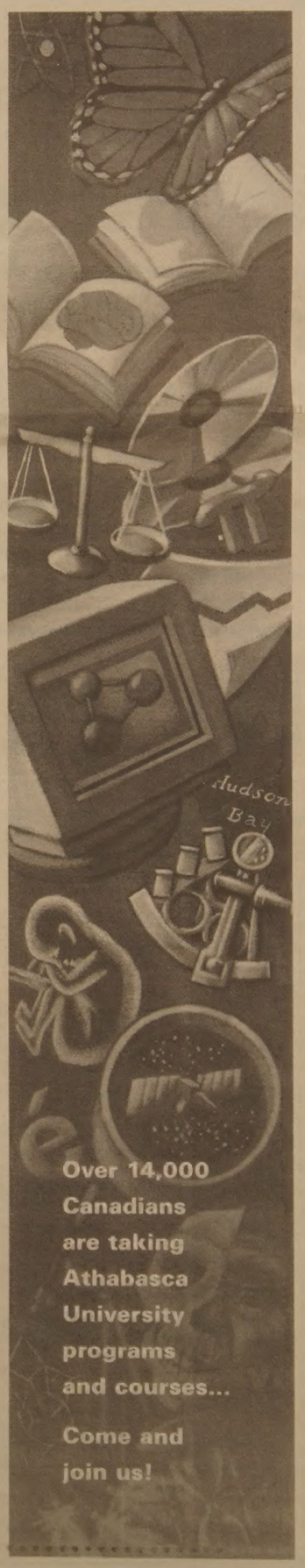


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# Profiles

# Best-selling author speaks at Brock

**By MARTIN McQUAIG**
**Staff Writer**

Best-selling Canadian author and journalist Linda McQuaig hasn't always been accepted for her views. Even her boss, newspaper mogul Conrad Black, suggested on CBC Radio she should be "horse-whipped."

McQuaig's message that "there is some functioning democracy out there (and) it just needs a little nurturing and development" was delivered in a presentation to students and the public at Brock University's Playhouse Theatre on March 30.

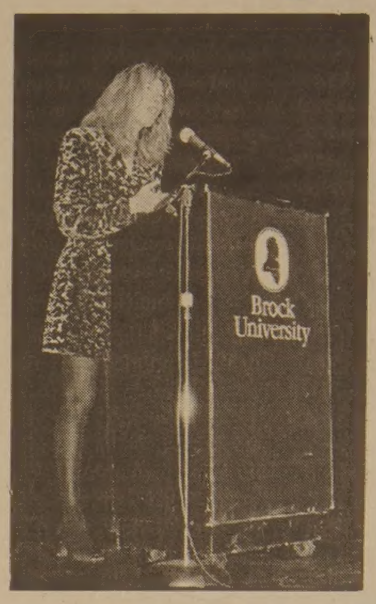
Asked about the conflict between her message and the fact she writes a bi-weekly column in Black's newspaper, *The National Post*, McQuaig says, "I'm not working for Conrad Black, I'm working against Conrad Black. I'm just doing it in his newspaper."

McQuaig's latest book, *The Cult of Impotence: Selling the Myth of Powerlessness in the Global Economy*, is a criticism of government and its failure to support the policies of the general public. She says the "concept of impotence" she uses refers to the notion governments are powerless in the global economy because the financial elite controls governments.

McQuaig says governments have more power in the world economy than they use, creating what she calls "democratic impotence."

McQuaig says although the federal budget surplus is expected to be close to $17 billion next year, cuts have left social programs with their lowest funding in 50 years.

"Why do we have to accept these limits on social spending?" she asks, referring to "tax cuts they have made." She says, "The benefits will go mostly to those at the upper end." This is the reason, she says, government has to continue with potentially controversial policy.




**LINDA McQUAIG**

McQuaig says people must accept the global economy, but must ask, "What kind of global economy do we want to live in?"

Between the mid-'40s and the mid-'70s she says the global economy was "good" because it was highly regulated in the public interest. "The rights of society, as a whole, took precedence over private investors." Since then, she says, there has been a "tremendous retreat from egalitarian gain of post-war globalization" and that the idea of a "good global economy" could be achieved if governments would use the power they have to control the movement of capital through international markets.

The Tobin tax, named after Nobel Prize-winning economist James Tobin, is a small tax proposal first brought to international attention at the 1995 G-7 summit in Halifax, N.S. The tax, less than one per cent, would be levied on the sale of currency on international markets and "could collect hundreds of billions of dollars" each year McQuaig says.

Although the Tobin tax was ignored at first, Canada has recently passed legislation to promote it and is the first G-7 nation to do so.

McQuaig says Canada can play a "major leadership role" in the promotion of the Tobin tax, as it did in bringing the landmine problem to international attention.

Liberal MPP Jim Bradley, of St. Catharines, says McQuaig "brings a very good alternative voice to economic issues in Parliament."

"It's good to have a challenge to right-wing policies imposed on us by the U.S.," he said. "Canadians can overcome right-wing news sources."

Bradley says McQuaig "advocates restraints on that system (global economy) making it more responsive to the needs of the people" and she offers "somewhat refreshing viewpoints."

McQuaig says students are "very cynical about power," and says she finds them more interested in her message, which is "it is important to be cynical about power."

# Canadian Musician Magazine hires graduate

**By CASSANDRA SIMONS**
**Staff Writer**

Jeff MacKay, 25, of St. Catharines, is a graduate of Niagara College's Journalism-Print program.

MacKay also has a diploma from the college's Public Relations (Post-graduate) program.

MacKay says his programs were "a lot of fun."

He graduated in April 1997 and by July had a job at *Canadian Musician Magazine* as assistant editor.

He edits four different magazines there: *Canadian Musician Magazine, Canadian Music Trade, Professional Sound* and *Professional Lighting*.

MacKay says the Journalism-Print program helped him prepare for his job, but "because it is different writing from journalism I wasn't prepared for everything."

MacKay says he and his boss choose the contents of the magazine. He edits copy, picks the photographs and proofreads the magazine.

"I spend a lot of the time on the phone making arrangements for photo shoots, and with people who want to write an article for the magazine."

He says he has travelled a lot going to concerts and photo shoots.

"I've gone everywhere from Toronto to Montreal, from New York to Nashville."

He says he doesn't like going on trips because he never has any time for himself.

"I'm always busy checking the speakers and the lighting."

Another reason he doesn't like going on trips is the days are long and he never gets enough sleep, he says.

"Plus, when I get back to the office my desk is covered with work and it seems as though I'll never get done."

MacKay says he feels as if his job has taken over his life.

"I've always loved music. I played instruments when I was younger and I've always gone to concerts, but now that's what I do for a living."

MacKay works from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily, "but that's only minimum. I'm usually there later than that."

"There are many days where I'll have worked a lot longer than that."

"My longest week ever was a 72-hour week. Plus, I made it to two concerts."

He says the best thing about his job is that he is able "to deal with really cool people."

"I've met Bryan Adams, Moist, Sara McLachlan and other musicians as well."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# Eye On Niagara

## Together, but separate, spells friendship

By MARY KOTSOPOULOS
Staff Writer

Three males, three houses and three friends leave these Niagara College students "living a dream."

Peter Troute, Mike Masses and Steve Steios are friends living in three separate houses while attending college.

Troute, 22, of St. Catharines, is in his first year of the Hospitality and Tourism program at the Niagara Falls campus.

Masses, 22, of Hamilton, is in his second year of the Hospitality and Tourism program at the Niagara Falls campus.

Steios, 24, of Hamilton, is in his final year of the Business Administration—Marketing (Co-op) program at the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"I hate to say this, but I love school," said Troute. "The fact that I get to wake up every morning and experience the joy of going to school is good enough for me."

"Where is this coming from? Pete, is that you talking?" said Masses. "No way, this guy never talks like this. I think he's just trying to impress you. That's it. Anyway, I think school is good for everyone. Everyone including me."

"Well, I think school is great, too," said Steios. "Since I am finished this April, I think everything is just dandy, don't you?"

"Well, back to my point," said Troute. "Since Mike doesn't think I'm capable of being a good liar or liking school, I'll tell you the truth. I think I liked school in the beginning of the year. I think I did. Anyway, after Christmas my enthusiasm of school deteriorated. Maybe my excitement toward school will come back in April. Maybe."

"Ahh, ya, whatever Pete. You just stick to your guns there, dude," said Masses. "I believe that school is encouraging and exciting for all students— great teachers, new friends and a great experience. Who wouldn't want that?"

"You guys just keep talking amongst yourselves," said Steios. "I have better things to talk about, like my future. I am finished in April and I can't believe someone is going to pay me to work for them. Wicked."

"I don't think you'll have a job right away, Steve," said Masses. "You've got to take some time off. You know, relax. Have some fun before you get into the real world. Plus, they might not hire you right away, you know. Just kidding."

"You guys drive me up the wall," said Troute. "Let's change the topic from school to what we really want in life. The thing I want most in life is a woman. Ya, baby."

"Now, that's Pete for you," said Masses. "No more school, get on with the ladies."

"Girls, girls, girls," said Troute. "If I really wanted one I can go, well, you know, the strip joint. There are quite a few locations, I might add. There's one in St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and other places, too."

"I think she doesn't want to know that, Pete," said Masses. "I don't have a girlfriend. I'm too busy with hockey. It takes up most of my time. Hockey is my priority right now. College comes first though, sometimes."

"I have a girlfriend who lives in Toronto," said Steios. "We've been dating for three years and it's going great."

"Well, I don't have a girlfriend," said Troute. "I don't think anybody should have a girlfriend or boyfriend while attending college. It's too hard to keep a girlfriend happy all the time. You know. You have to pay attention to them too much. It's a terrible thing to waste your time on."

Asked about family, Troute, Masses and Steios regarded family as a "top priority."

"Where would we be without family? Not here, obviously," said Troute. "They gave birth to me. Well, I hope just my mom. I love them. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for them. Right, dudes?"

"'Right, dudes?' Please do not say that. It drives me crazy. He's right, though," said Masses. "If it weren't for my family and their encouragement, I would not be here. I would never go to school. I wouldn't play hockey or whatever, and I would not be having this conversation with you right at this

"I was just about to say that," said Steios. "I guess I'll have to figure out what to say on my own. Well, I love my parents. They are the best, really. That's all there it to it."

The conversation lasted for two hours and one last question remained.

"We do not get along," said Troute. "Not at all. I'd hate them more if they moved in with me."

"Thanks," said Masses. "I appreciate your honesty and intelligence. Thank you."

"You always cut me off, Masses. Let me complete my thought," said Troute. "You know I always joke like that. How could we not get along? We don't live with each other. Thank goodness."

"We live near each other, in townhouses," said Steios. "Not together. We met when we were moving in the houses in September. Then we realized that we were going to Niagara College, but at a different campus. Plus, Pete and Mike are at the same campus. We live right by the highway and we all have cars. It's easy access for us to get to the college."

"Next year Mike and I will live together," said Troute. "Steve is leaving us, unfortunately. It's gonna be us two slugs hanging around. Maybe if we're lucky, Steve will visit us."

## 'Ordinary person' living today, waits for tomorrow

By CRAIG STRATYCHUK
Staff Writer

Dustin Uhren says he's just "an ordinary person."

Uhren, 24, of St. Catharines, isn't an outstanding person, but says he's "one of the last good guys."

Uhren was born on April 5, 1974, in Vancouver, B.C., and lived there until he was eight.

Uhren says he can't remember too much about British Columbia, but Western Canada is a lot "nicer" than southern Ontario. When Uhren's family chose to move, Uhren says he was "sad to leave" but "excited to see what his new home would be like."

After a few moves between Niagara Falls and St. Catharines, Uhren's family chose to stay in the south side of St. Catharines, where Uhren lives.

"I like the Niagara region," says Uhren. "I've met a lot of real good friends here." Uhren says some of the friends he met when he first moved here are still, after 17 years, his closest friends.

"It's hard to find people to make friends with and that treat me for who I am and not what I have or do," says Uhren.

Uhren went to high school at Denis Morris Secondary School, in south St. Catharines.

Uhren says the uniforms were "ugly," but "the school holds lots of great memories." Uhren played football for Denis Morris and led the team to two championships.

After high school and at 18, Uhren moved to Banff, Alta. "Banff was a truly remarkable experience."

What was supposed to be a vacation, turned out to be eight months of his life. Uhren worked at the bar in the Banff Springs Hotel and says he "partied and snowboarded the rest of my time away."

Uhren lived in Waterloo, Ont., and took psychology at the University of Waterloo. Uhren says "it was a waste of time" moving to Waterloo, adding he thinks he was too irresponsible for university.

Uhren now attends Niagara College, in Welland, and is enrolled in the Social Services program. He says he "wants to help people."

After graduation, Uhren says he wants to "move back out west" and "maybe live in Whistler, B.C."

Uhren says he's just looking forward to "kicking it with the boys," and finishing school.

"The future is pretty far away," says Uhren, adding "live today as today, and worry about tomorrow . . . tomorrow."

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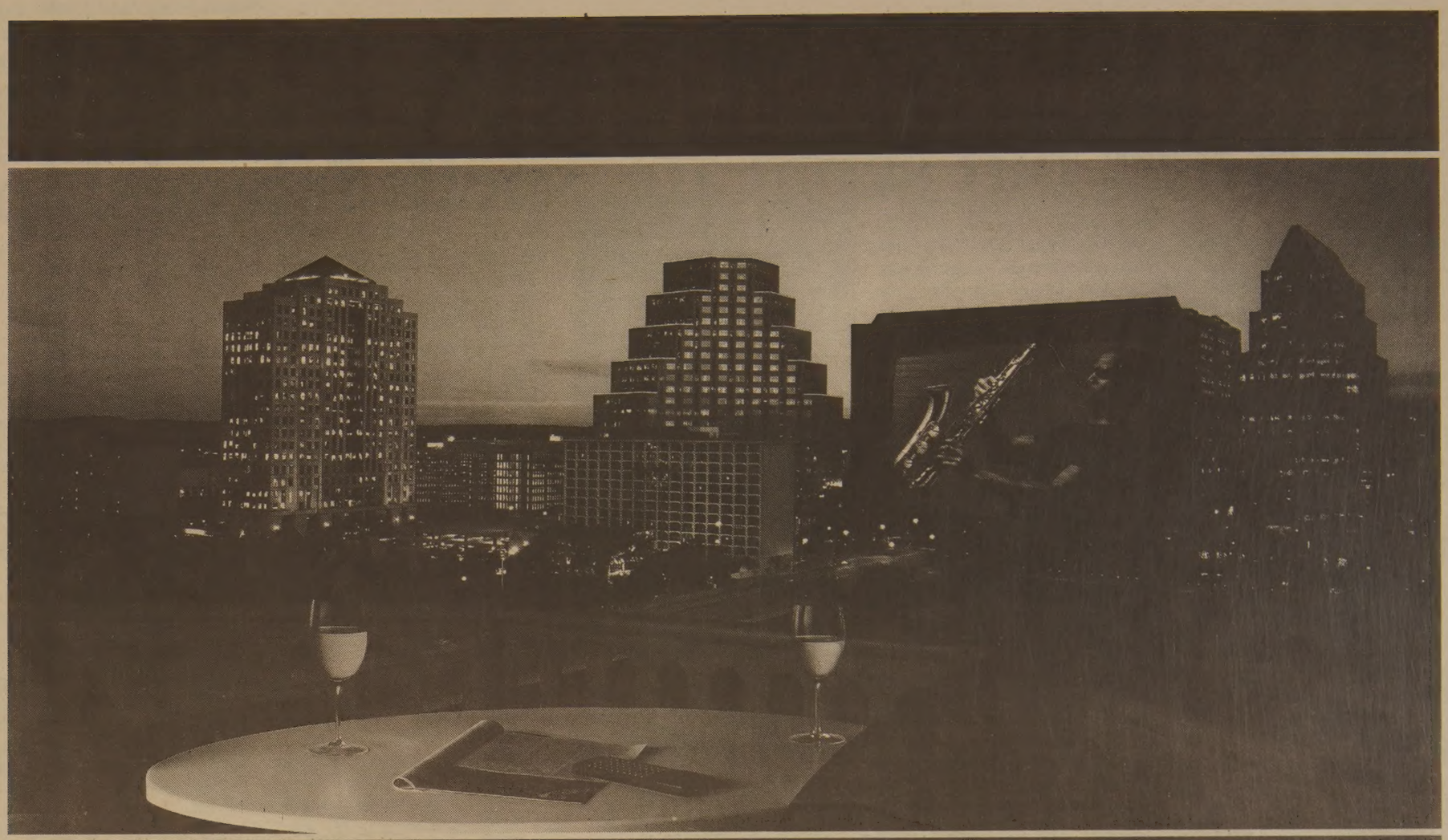

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